

JPRS-UMA-84-064

15 October 1984

USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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15 October 1984

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

CONTENTS

ARMED FORCES

Ch Mar Avn P.S. Kutakhov Awarded Medal (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 Aug 84).....	1
Testing of Long-Range Cruise Missiles Announced (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 26 Aug 84).....	2
Military Metrology Services Discussed (R. Pokrovskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 22 Aug 84).....	4

GROUND FORCES

Outstanding Deputy Division Commander Profiled (B. Grigor'yev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 24 Jul 84).....	6
New Method of Erecting Pontoon Bridge Tested (N. Zubtsov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 31 Jul 84).....	9

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

Kirsanov Criticizes Pilots' Training (P. Kirsanov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 24 Jul 84).....	11
Thorough Pre-Flight Equipment Checks Urged (Editorial; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 4 Aug 84).....	15

NAVAL FORCES

Surface Ship Power Plants Reviewed (M. Tsiporukha; VOYENNYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	18
Better Use of Training Cruise Discussed (L. Semenov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 19 Jul 84).....	21

Radio Communications Exercise Described (Ye. Vodop'yanov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 28 Jul 84).....	24
SPECIAL TROOPS	
Radio Interference Used in Training Specialists (A. Byshok; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 24 Jul 84).....	26
Improvements in Training of Radio Specialists Noted (Ye. Kraynov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 4 Aug 84).....	28
CIVIL DEFENSE	
Need for Civil Defense Planning in Factories Discussed (V. Sinyutin; VOYENNNYYE ZHANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	30
Political Organization of Armenian Civil Defense Discussed (Ye. Khrenkov; VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	34
Civil Defense Training in Pioneer Camps Examined (N. Konovalov; VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	37
Samarkand Civil Defense Program Lacks Full Participation (M. Matviyenko; VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	41
DOSAAF	
Yegorov Calls for Improving DOSAAF Training (G. Yegorov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Jul 84).....	44
Lt Gen Arapov Praises Troops of Central Asian Military District (V. F. Arapov; SOVETSKIY VOIN, No 14, Jul 84).	49
Regional, Methodological Problems of DOSAAF Discussed (V. Mosyaykin; VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	53
MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES	
Military Instructors Teach Georgians, Armenians Russian (VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	59
Russian in Armenian School, by M. Gorshkov Georgian School Teaches Russian, by A. Gvnetadze	
Military Instructor Sees No Time Limits to His Job (I. Danilov; VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	62

Obstacle Course Design, Use Reviewed (VOYENNYE ZNANIYA, No 5, May 84).....	65
---	----

AFGHANISTAN

Technician Repairs Armored Personnel Carrier Under Fire (A. Doronin; ZNAMENOSETS, No 4, Apr 84).....	71
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ARMED FORCES

CH MAR AVN P. S. KUTAKHOV AWARDED MEDAL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has awarded the order of Lenin and a second "Gold Star" medal to Hero of the Soviet Union, Chief Marshal of Aviation Pavel Stepanovich Kutakhov for his great contribution to heightening preparedness and equipping the Air Force with modern aviation technology, for skillful leadership of the Air Force in the interests of strengthening the defense capability of the USSR, and in connection with his 70th birthday. Also, it has been decreed that a bronze bust be erected at the birthplace of the hero.

FTD/SNAP

CSO: 1801/1

ARMED FORCES

TESTING OF LONG-RANGE CRUISE MISSILES ANNOUNCED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] In the USSR Ministry of Defense -- The American administration is not abandoning attempts to break up the existing balance of forces, and to achieve military superiority over the USSR and other socialist countries. To this end, the USA is forcing the development of new kinds and types of offensive weapons, including air-, sea- and land-based cruise missiles with a long range.

The Soviet Union, striving to avert an arms race in a new and dangerous direction, has repeatedly proposed to the United States that an agreement be reached on banning long-range cruise missiles. The American administration, however, has not accepted this proposal. It also has not listened to warnings that the Soviet Union would not permit the appearance of cruise missiles of this type in the USA to go without consequences. The USA has embarked on a massive deployment of long-range cruise missiles, including the stationing of land-based missiles of this kind in several West European countries since December 1983.

In the interests of ensuring its security and the security of other member states of the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet Union has adopted appropriate measures. At the present time in the USSR, successful tests of land-based long-range cruise missiles are being conducted.

The Soviet Union will do everything necessary to achieve real

limitation and reduction of arms.
However, if the administration of
the USA continues to pursue the mat-
ter of achieving military superiority,
it [the USSR] will be compelled in
the future to take retaliatory mea-
sures in order that the balance of
forces between the USSR and the USA,
and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO,
shall not be violated.

FTD/SNAP

CSO: 1801/1

ARMED FORCES

MILITARY METROLOGY SERVICES DISCUSSED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Col Gen R. Pokrovskiy]

[Abstract] The author discusses at length the nature of the duties performed by military metrology services. Characterizing modern equipment that has been made available to these services, the author relates the following:

"...Instruments of the third and especially the fourth generations are highly accurate automated devices intended for service in harsh battle conditions. As a rule, they include microprocessors which not only automate the measurement process itself, but also automatically process measurement data according to complex algorithms. By reducing inspection time, this permits military equipment to be made ready in a shorter time.

"Another aspect of the present level of development is that conditions have been presented for gradually transferring from the use of separate instruments and consoles to so-called aggregated inspection systems. In other words, on the basis of general-purpose automated means of measurement, it has become possible to develop automated measurement systems (AIS) built on the modular-unit principle for broad application to large sets of measurement tasks.

"Such flexible, tunable systems can be used for monitoring the parameters of various types of weapons and military equipment. Possessing high accuracy and versatility, they have demonstrated their promise. The way is now open to reducing the number of inspection systems, heightening the accuracy of measurements and the level of their automation, and moving to automated diagnosis of the condition of military equipment, with pinpointing of malfunctions down to individual units."

FTD/SNAP

CSO: 1801/1

GROUND FORCES

OUTSTANDING DEPUTY DIVISION COMMANDER PROFILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jul 84 p 1

[Article by Col B. Grigor'yev: "Foremost Army and Navy People: The Main Criterion"]

[Text] That day Col V. Neverov and I visited many facilities at the training center. Classes were going on everywhere. Motorized riflemen, tankmen, artillerymen and air defense personnel were performing firing exercises, driving combat vehicles and improving tactical training...

In my view, the class directed by company commander Sr Lt V. Grigorenko was well organized. The motorized riflemen functioned confidently and vigorously, and noticeably bettered the norms in preparing the BMP's [infantry fighting vehicles] for action. But Col Neverov arrived at a different conclusion on observing the crews. He simply said:

"That's not how, comrades, that's not how!"

And he explained that, in his opinion, the motorized riflemen were performing the mission purely mechanically; they weren't readying for action, but rather were demonstrating this readiness. "I'm sure," concluded the deputy division commander, "that if the crews had to take the vehicles into actual combat they would have performed each operation more responsibly and wouldn't have allowed themselves the slightest carelessness. But now much is simply being denoted."

Col Neverov finished the critique of the class episode in a personal discussion with the company commander. He gave the reminder that a class also has indoctrinational goals along with the training goals. Preparation for combat requires a person to have high intensity of thought and an extreme concentration of willpower.

"But in your class the vehicle commanders, gunner-operators and driver-mechanics aren't simulating combat mentally. The proper tactical background has not been set up and supervision is lacking on your part. The stopwatch won't help out in such situations."

The deputy division commander made notes in a workbook. It was in the vehicle that he continued:

"Sr Lt Grigorenko can't be reproached for methodological unpreparedness. It isn't a simple matter to create a sensation of combat reality in trainees. A demonstration class has to be prepared without fail and there has to be a collective consultation on ways to improve the training process."

Col Neverov is new in the division, but I noticed that people listen attentively to his advice and recommendations and adopt them without any doubt. Both the authority of the position and personal authority tells, as the saying goes. People in the division know Vladimir Lavrent'yevich. His service largely is model. After completing the Baku Higher Combined-Arms Command School imeni AzSSR Supreme Soviet, Neverov commanded a platoon for three years, and a company for just as long.

"It is there in the platoon and the company," says Vladimir Lavrent'yevich, "that an officer's character takes shape. He is being polished in all other posts."

The deputy division commander recalls that the dream of an officer career originated in his early childhood. His father, a participant of the Civil War who received a serious wound in a fight against the White Guards, exerted an influence. He was in a festive mood when he became a cadet.

"I studied well," says Vladimir Lavrent'yevich in telling about a time already distant. "But I wasn't among the leaders. I was behind some comrades in knowledge and in drill and physical training. This tormented me and gave me no rest. I had the thought that I never could come to resemble our platoon commander Sr Lt Moskvich."

Col Petr Timofeyevich Moskvich has been in other positions for a long while now, but he remains in Neverov's grateful memory as a cadet platoon commander, a strict and even rather hard superior and at the same time a sensitive, responsive senior comrade.

Vladimir Neverov completed school with honors. He also received a red diploma after completing the Frunze Military Academy.

Where hasn't Vladimir Lavrent'yevich had occasion to serve? Here is an eloquent feature: son Andrey has had to change schools eight times in nine years of study because of the family's moves.

Neverov commanded a motorized rifle regiment in the Red Banner Far East Military District for two years. The regiment was among the leaders. Vladimir Lavrent'yevich was promoted to lieutenant colonel ahead of schedule. He also received his present military rank ahead of schedule, while part of the limited contingent of Soviet forces in Afghanistan, where he also commanded a motorized rifle regiment. He received the title Hero of the Soviet Union for courage and heroism in performing international duty.

...A deputy division commander's concerns are many. One of the most important is to ensure high quality of the training process. I carefully listen to Col Neverov's remarks at the training facilities. The remarks vary both in tone and content, and I catch myself thinking that he views any activity through the prism of the demands of modern combat. The chief criterion of quality for him is the contribution which the activities make to combat readiness.

6904

CSO: 1801/412

GROUND FORCES

NEW METHOD OF ERECTING PONTOON BRIDGE TESTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jul 84 p 1

[Article by Maj N. Zubtsov: "The Main Reserve"]

[Text] The heavy KrAZ's [vehicles produced at Kremenchug Motor Vehicle Plant] took the next upgrade on the rain-eroded road and the river appeared far below. From a distance it appeared to be an inoffensive ribbon, silvery in the rays of the setting sun. It wouldn't appear to be a problem to connect the banks of such a little river with a pontoon bridge, but battalion commander Lt Col M. Kriklevets already had the engineer reconnaissance information that the water level in the river was higher than usual, the banks were cut up and the current was strong.

The vehicles cautiously approached the water's edge. Sections of the future bridge slid into the churning waves. Lt N. Matin's subordinates dextrously joined the end section with the river section. Things also were going well in the company commanded by Capt A. Nyryanov. It was competing with the company commanded by Capt V. Svitin, the battalion's best subunit. Nyryanov's subordinates had not yet once succeeded in outstripping their comrades in competition. Just what would be the result of the rivalry today?

The pontonmen were fussing with the sections with the motor operators right next to them. Then the grayish-green ribbon of company ferries was already stretched out in a long line along the bank. There was one more steel ribbon a bit farther off. Now they had to be placed in the axis of the future bridge, connected, secured, and the crossing was ready. The battalion commander took a look at the hurried hand of the stopwatch and was satisfied that things had gone well. Never before had they shown such a result.

How was the gain in time achieved? The search for reserves hasn't let up throughout the entire training year in the outstanding battalion. The struggle for bettering normative times comprises the basis of competition.

At the beginning of summer training the subunit decided to change the bridge assembly procedure: they began to assemble it not into platoon sections as before, but right away into company sections. Of course it is more difficult

to control large ferries on the water as maneuverability is reduced. But at the beginning of the year the motor operators' proficiency improved. As training practices showed, they were ready to accomplish a more difficult mission, and a substantial gain was obtained. And now that which had been worked out in training classes had been repeated successfully in the special tactical exercise. The norm had been bettered by almost twofold.

"The time saving in combat work came not simply from a change in the procedure for assembling the bridge," states the battalion commander in a conversation. "Our main reserve is the improvement in the personnel's special training. Earlier, for example, we were troubled by the sluggishness of the team commanded by Jr Sgt Bondarenko. Now this team was among the best and Sr Sgt Pobednyy coped with the duties of platoon commander in the exercise. That means it isn't for nothing that we prepare demonstration classes for the NCO's and arrange contests in field training among the teams. And just see how happy Capt Nyryanov's subordinates are. Today they surpassed the neighboring company for the first time and they gained almost 1½ minutes."

Lt Col Kriklevets heads for company commander Capt Nyryanov to congratulate him on winning the competition.

6904

CSO: 1801/412

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

KIRSANOV CRITICIZES PILOTS' TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jul 84 p 2

[Article by Mar Avn P. Kirsanov: "Flight Safety and Pilot Training"]

[Text] I will say frankly that when the talk turns to the role of flight safety in achieving high combat readiness of air units and subunits and to ways of ensuring it, one sometimes hears the most varied opinions. It also happens that some aviators, even among experienced ones, almost set the demands of flight safety in opposition to a pilot's initiative and activeness. In their opinion, flight safety has no substantial importance in a combat situation--war allegedly writes everything off. They believe the important thing in combat to be a pilot's boldness and resourcefulness.

This is an oversimplified and, moreover, an incorrect understanding of the matter. Let's assume that a pilot was not able to reliably perform flying in a training situation or tactical application at a range or, finally, simply a take-off or landing without creating dangerous situations. Tell me just what can be expected of him in actual combat when the difficulty of performing the mission increases immeasurably. There any inadvertence which is immaterial for peacetime can become fatal when enemy actions are considered.

I recall how we young fighter pilots learned this truth in the menacing sky of the first months of the Great Patriotic War. The inexorable reality of combat gave lessons of the inseparability of combat effectiveness and flight safety one after the other, showing what being even briefly oblivious to the immutable flying laws existing even in those times led to. Here is just one example.

In September 1941 a young squadron commander of our 153d Fighter Regiment shot down his very first enemy aircraft, a Ju-88 bomber, over the Karelian Isthmus. When he accompanied the burning enemy to the explosion on the ground, the tension of aerial combat was replaced by a fully understandable rejoicing. Turning toward his airfield, the pilot pictured with delight how he would "twirl" above it in a vigorous chandelle--a "royal" turn, as some pilots said at that time, marking a return from a successful combat sortie in such a manner.

For some instants the pilot forgot about the constant circumspection which had become customary in the war sky and was one of the elements for ensuring flight safety. At this moment a burst from a fascist fighter which had stolen up undetected struck his aircraft. The flight ended not with a "royal" chandelle, but with the medical battalion.

The officer fought until the end of the war after he recovered. He flew long after it and taught subordinates. He didn't cease to remind them about circumspection and about the need for constant control over one's actions, without which it is impossible to achieve reliable flight safety.

In aviation there is unquestionably a certain portion of danger in any flight, although the development of aviation equipment, its automation, and the multiple redundancy of vitally important systems considerably improve the reliability of work in the air. Let's assume nevertheless that danger has arisen for reasons not dependent on the pilot--an equipment malfunction (it sometimes happens), a collision with birds, or getting into dangerous weather conditions. Then, using his skills, on-board equipment and the flight controller's help, the officer struggles to get out of the emergency situation. Let's recall just the well-known flight by pilot-inspector Col I. Zhukov, who displayed high proficiency and self-control in an emergency landing of a supersonic fighter after a malfunction in the stratosphere. He was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union for this exploit.

But one cannot help but admit that more often a crew gets into a dangerous situation in a completely serviceable aircraft and in a normal training flight situation only as a result of its erroneous actions in flying the aircraft and operating its equipment or as a result of a direct violation of instructions and flying rules. For example, in performing an attack against a ground target, Lt Col V. Makashin did not maintain two parameters at the same time which ensure safe use of weapons--he fired from a distance less than authorized and he came out of the dive late. As a result the aircraft was damaged by fragments of his own rounds.

Pilots also get into other dangerous situations due to lack of discipline, poor training, or sometimes because of excessive self-confidence. This includes, for example, approaching stall conditions, an inadmissible convergence with other aircraft in the air, and so on.

The entire system of rules in effect in aviation, the sequence of personnel training and indoctrination, and the organizing activity of leaders (including supervisory activities) are directed toward preventing such mistakes and preconditions for flying incidents. Special mention should be made of the importance of a commander's supervision and a fundamental demand on the ground training of each aviator and on their performance of functional duties.

Experience shows that in those units where commanders take a personal part in conducting ground and preliminary training of their subordinates and give them tests in a period of sessions, there are fewer mistakes in pilot actions. Such commanders not only show exactingness, by their personal example they also

instil in aviators the desire for strict observance of flying laws. This provides a comprehensive approach toward assuring flight safety.

Contemporary airborne missile systems are outfitted with automatic equipment which permits precluding the appearance of dangerous situations in flight. But not all aviators can make competent use in their work of such devices as a dangerous-altitude warning device, angle of attack limiter, or automatic landing approach with a rigid weather minimum. The fact is that these are the devices which are extremely important in a combat situation, when the pilot's primary attention span will be occupied with searching for the enemy, arranging a combat maneuver and employing weapons. In order to use all these means confidently in a combat sortie one must be able to practice using them in training flights until there is a perceived automatism. I emphasize the words perceived automatism. That is not always done.

This happened with Officer A. Ivanilov, an experienced military pilot. In practicing a night landing with a weather minimum aboard a fighter-bomber he began to look for the approach lights prematurely in approaching the far beacon. The pilot was briefly distracted from monitoring his position on the instruments and when he recollected he discovered that the missile-armed aircraft had made an involuntary bank, left the landing course and was descending sharply. In the dangerous situation Ivanilov behaved according to an ingrained stereotype--he began to correct the error manually without trusting the automatic equipment for leveling off the aircraft. He lost several seconds, but this was enough for the aircraft to land before reaching the runway.

It was learned in a critique of this dangerous precondition that the pilot wouldn't even have gotten into this difficult spot had he made prompt use of on-board devices which increase flight safety.

The experience of operational training work teaches us that the struggle against preconditions must be waged across a broad front by increasing the demands on observance of flying rules, by improving pilot training, and by preventing the repetition of known dangerous situations and errors. This is always remembered in the regiment where officer-leaders G. Ivanov, Yu. Agarkov and V. Yefimov served at various times. The basing conditions here are severe: mountainous terrain, the ocean nearby, the few alternate airfields far away, and actual sorties not precluded during operational readiness duty due to the proximity of the state border. From year to year the flights here proceed rhythmically and safely and the pilots function with boldness and initiative in practice combat. It is important to emphasize that the party organization here gives constant attention to assuring flight safety.

But in another air unit which was commanded until recently by Lt Col V. Kushnir and which is under enormously better conditions, flight safety is not always properly assured. The fact is that the regiments have similar equipment in their inventory and are guided by one and the same documents. On the other hand, as an analysis shows, the level of organization of combat training and of the personnel's mobilization for prevention of dangerous situations varies. In

the backward unit, preventive work is done without a precise system or reliance on foremost experience, which degrades its effectiveness.

Experience shows that some of the preconditions occur not only from the aviators' lack of discipline, but with the coincidence of several reasons. For example, to the initial source of a dangerous situation--let's take a slight equipment malfunction--are added the pilot's erroneous actions, the consequences of which then are aggravated by sluggishness of appointed persons in the flight control group in making a competent decision. As a result there is a precondition which didn't have to occur.

How disappointing it is to see the repetition of pilot errors which resemble each other in circumstances and reasons. Practically each of them could have been fully prevented had its "authors"--the pilots, the support specialists, or the flight controller--drawn conclusions from similar instances which occurred in the past. Recently for example two experienced pilots got into one and the same dangerous situation in practicing low-altitude flying with an interval of a few days. I see the main reason to be the lack of qualified information provided to all flight personnel about the first pilot's error.

Flights are made without preconditions for incidents where commanders, political entities, and the party and Komsomol organizations devote constant attention to developing qualities of the military pilot such as self-control, watchfulness in flight, and vigilance based on a knowledge of the most typical dangerous instances which already occurred in the given type of aircraft and in performing similar flight missions. These qualities reliably guarantee both the pilot's high combat effectiveness and his psychological stability toward various complications in flight.

An uncritical assessment of personal flying abilities and the level of one's training is especially dangerous for military pilots. Indifference and conceit which are not noted promptly by commanders and political officers let down many pilots, including those who had much experience in flying and in encountering special instances.

The struggle for strict observance of flight safety requirements is not a hindrance on the path toward developing initiative and improving a pilot's combat effectiveness. It is a manifestation of genuine interest in training military pilots of a high class capable of performing any combat missions effectively and with fewest losses. This is evidenced by the successful actions of aviators who recently participated in a staff exercise involving Army and Navy personnel of the Soviet Armed Forces under the direction of USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov.

Our practical response to the constant concern shown by the Communist Party for the Soviet Armed Forces is a comprehensive improvement in flight safety, which is a necessary condition for achieving the high combat effectiveness of every pilot, crew, subunit and unit as a whole.

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

THOROUGH PRE-FLIGHT EQUIPMENT CHECKS URGED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Aug 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Prepare Equipment for Flights Thoroughly"]

[Text] There is strenuous, around-the-clock operational training work going on at the military airfields. The aircraft are operating under near-combat conditions with practice firing against ground and airborne targets and in coordination with other branches of the Armed Forces. The military pilots are perfecting their tactical, weapons and flying proficiency and raising the combat readiness of air units and subunits in intensive flying. Their first assistants in this are the engineers, technicians and aviation specialists--the ground proprietors of the winged craft. They ready the equipment for flying and tactical use in compressed periods of time and with high reliability.

The Air Forces and aviation of the Air Defense Forces and Navy are outfitted with aircraft and helicopters of the latest modifications. Vertical-geometry wing and vertical take-off and landing aircraft armed with missiles and the multiseat airships are sophisticated aviation systems fitted with instruments and equipment and developed on the basis of the latest achievements of science and technology. This raised the role and importance of ground aviation services even higher and required a fundamental revision in the training of engineering and technical personnel for servicing aviation equipment. Aviation specialists must have a high technical culture, discipline in following the rules for maintaining and servicing aviation equipment and weaponry, high awareness, and a sense of personal responsibility for flight safety, for the pilots' lives and for the pilots' success in performing their assigned mission in order to prepare the aircraft and helicopters with reliability and quality for flying under conditions of intensive combat training.

Results of the winter training period and of the first months of aviators' summer training indicate that the fulfillment of combat training plans without accidents and preconditions for flying incidents has been achieved where the equipment and weapons are kept in exemplary condition and prepared thoroughly for going into the air. As a rule, the problems of reliable ground preparation of equipment in these units and subunits are constantly within the focus of commanders, political workers, staffs and the party and Komsomol organizations. It is from a principled, party position that they ensure that unit and

subunit personnel thoroughly learn the equipment in the inventory and competently operate it according to guidance documents.

This very approach toward accomplishing the important and responsible task of ensuring high combat readiness and combat effectiveness is characteristic of the work of aviators in Unit "X" where Lt Col V. Vorob'yev is the deputy commander for the aviation engineering service (Moscow Air Defense District). The regiment has had no preconditions for flying incidents through the fault of aviation specialists for a number of years. People here treat combat traditions carefully. During the Great Patriotic War the regiment's mechanics and technicians supported several thousand sorties. Aviation specialists study combat experience today just as thoroughly as they study the experience of the best engineers and technicians of our days. Concerned for equipment serviceability and combat readiness, the regiment gives much attention to the people and to their political and moral indoctrination and professional training.

Every year specialists come into the air regiments who are graduates of engineering and aviation technical schools, and special attention must be given to their combat development. It is the duty of commanders, political workers, and the party and Komsomol organizations to be more active in familiarizing them with the patriotic undertakings born of the initiative of foremost military collectives: "A higher level of mastery for new equipment!", "A Komsomol guarantee for equipment servicing!" and others. We must generalize the foremost experience of young aviators promptly, see that it becomes widespread, and make bolder use of the moral and material incentives for the best specialists.

Much is being done in the units to improve the quality with which aviation equipment is prepared for flying, but there also are substantial deficiencies in this matter. Sometimes unit and subunit aviation specialists attempt to blame their mistakes on the work of aircraft repair enterprises. Lack of discipline, violations of rules for preparing aircraft and helicopters for a sortie, negligence and carelessness have not yet been eliminated everywhere. The following incident took place in a subunit where Officer T. Sakhautdinov was in charge of the engineering service. Taking advantage of the engineer's lack of supervision, aircraft technician Sr Lt V. Dubinin violated the procedure for preparing the aircraft for the next sortie and "forgot" to fill the missile-armed aircraft with fuel, but he reported the combat craft's readiness to the pilot and sent it up. It was only thanks to the pilot's high proficiency that the flight ended safely.

It must be remembered that the aviators' high professional schooling above all is a reliable guarantee for quality preparation of aviation equipment. This matter should be given more serious attention back in the aviation schools. Cadet training must be carried out based on the fact that the units' aircraft inventory contains contemporary equipment. We must resolutely stop conservatism and stereotypes in training aviators in the units, make full use of a training facility equipped with operating circuits and models to improve the aviators' class ratings, and hold joint technical flying conferences more often.

Aviation equipment requires people to strictly follow the regulation for its preparation and perform a thorough instrument check of the working capacity of its systems on the ground. This task is carried out by specialists--metrologists. The equipment's combat readiness and the pilot's success in the air depend largely on their work.

Commanders, political entities, and the party and Komsomol organizations must give unremitting attention to problems of training highly qualified aviators of the ground services--engineers, technicians, junior aviation specialists--who love their heroic profession. They are obliged to use all forms of party-political and indoctrination work to instil in air unit personnel a feeling of responsibility for performing the missions assigned them--keep equipment in constant readiness for combat, be concerned with perfecting the aviators' professional knowledge, and assure that examples are set by party and Komsomol members in fulfilling their duties.

Personnel of the aviation engineering service perform exceptionally responsible tasks. The accidentfree flight operations of air units and subunits--one of the most important criteria for a further increase in combat readiness of all air arms of the Armed Forces--depends on the results of work by engineers, technicians and other aviation specialists.

6904

CSO: 1801/412

NAVAL FORCES

SURFACE SHIP POWER PLANTS REVIEWED

Moscow VOYENNYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
p 45

[Article by Engr-Capt 1st Rank M. Tsiporukha: "Power Plants of Surface Ships"]

[Text] The power units of modern combat ships include first of all the powerful engines. These are capable of giving ships weighing 60,000-80,000 and more tons the speed of an express train.

Shells and rockets are delivered to guns and launchers, gun turrets and torpedo tubes are turned and radar antennas are rotated using electric motors. For operating the gun control instruments, radio equipment, navigation instruments and a multiplicity of telephones, lights, sirens and bells, electric power is essential.

Ships carry fire pumps which deliver hundreds of tons of water at a high pressure for extinguishing fires which may arise in combat damage and emergencies. There are bilge pumps for pumping out water which has gotten inside the hull through holes, and systems for reducing listing and trim which appear with the flooding of compartments. All these firefighting, bilge pumping, listing and other important systems also require the significant consumption of energy. The source of this is the ship's power unit.

On modern ships there are different types of power units. On large ships (carriers, cruisers, large ASW ships and so forth) most often these are steam turbine power units with steam boilers and turbines. Modern ship steam turbines turn the propeller shafts not directly but rather through gear drives. The problem is that the turbine operates with high efficiency only at a high turning speed (4,000-6,000 rpm). At the same time the best operating condition for the propeller shaft is with a speed of 300-600 rpm. For this reason a reduction gear drive is installed between the turbine and the shaft and this reduces the propeller's turning speed.

In combat a ship is constantly maneuvering. Correspondingly there is also a change in the amount of speed required for turning the main turbines. On modern ships, automatic devices control the work of the steam boilers and turbines. The operating principle for the system of automatic control and regulation of the ship boilers and turbines is as follows. The commander from the bridge

sends an order over the engine telegraph to the propulsion control room to increase speed. The watch specialist begins to open valves delivering steam to the turbines. Steam consumption is increased and the turbines pick up speed, turning the propellers faster. The change in steam consumption is immediately recorded by sensitive elements. An impulse from them activates the servomechanisms of the governors which automatically increase the supply of mazut to the furnaces and the supply of air required for ensuring the full combustion of the fuel.

By this the water in the boiler generating tubes is heated more quickly and steam formation is intensified. At the same time other automatic devices increase the delivery of feedwater to the boilers. Consequently, the output of the required amount of steam is automatically provided.

The power of the steam turbine units on modern ships is great. Even on the first Soviet cruiser "Kirov" built in the prewar years, the power of the steam turbine unit was 110,000 hp which provided a speed of up to 36 knots (66.6 km per hour).

The most powerful ship turbines are installed on aircraft carriers. Thus, on the American carrier "John F. Kennedy," with a displacement tonnage of 80,700 tons and built in 1969, there are eight steam boilers and four geared-turbine units with a total power of 280,000 hp.

On ships with a steam-turbine power unit, the basic sources of electric current for operating the numerous combat users are generators which are turned by special steam turbines. Diesel generators serve as emergency current sources.

The idea of whether or not water vapor can be considered the best for a turbine engine has long preoccupied engineers and scientists. The idea arose of using a hot gas in the place of steam. One of the first attempts to develop a ship gas turbine engine was linked with the activities of the Russian naval mechanic D. P. Kuz'minskiy. He designed and built a gas-steam turbine for a small launch. The death of the inventor in 1900 and the indifference of the Tsarist bureaucrats prevented this work from being completed. Nevertheless, the Kuz'minskiy turbine was the world's first such unit.

How is a ship gas turbine unit designed? Its major component part is the compressor. This compresses the air drawn in from the atmosphere. Here not only its pressure but also its temperature are increased. Then the air is delivered to the combustion chamber. Atomized fuel is also supplied here at a pressure of up to 50 atmospheres. In igniting the fuel burns, forming hot gases. From the combustion chamber, these gases, having mixed with the air, go to the gas turbine which operates on the same principle as a steam turbine. The used gases are released into the atmosphere.

In comparison with a steam turbine unit, a gas turbine one of the same power has significantly lower weight and smaller size and possesses a higher efficiency. It is much more maneuverable. Preparing it for use and reaching full capacity take less time while maintenance requires fewer personnel.

Initially gas turbine units were employed on small-displacement ships (torpedo boats, small ASW boats) as booster engines. This was completely natural as the

gas turbine engines reached the navy from aviation where they were first employed on aircraft in 1944-1945. Such engines were of low weight and size but of comparatively limited operating time, that is, there was a short operating time between plant overhauls. For this reason, it was better to employ them as booster engines which gave the ship a high speed only during an attack. During the remaining time, diesels were employed on the ships for propulsion.

Later on, in the 1960's, large displacement ships were built with gas turbine units which were used to turn the propellers under all propulsion conditions and not only during an attack. The power of modern ship gas turbine engines is now rather significant. For example, on the English ASW cruiser "Invincible" with a displacement of 19,500 tons, there are four Olympus gas turbine engines with a total power of 112,000 hp. And each of the two propellers is turned by two engines.

On ships with a gas turbine power unit, the sources of electric power are the gas turbine generators and diesel generators. In a gas turbine generator the electric generator is turned by a separate auxiliary gas turbine engine.

The third widespread type of ship power unit is the diesel. A diesel is an internal combustion engine with fuel self-ignition with the fuel being injected into the working cylinder at a pressure up to 300 atmospheres. At the moment of injection, the piston compresses the air in the cylinder with the air temperature rising to 550-600° C. Hot gases are formed with the burning of the fuel. Under their pressure the piston is moved completing the stroke and the crankshaft connected to the propeller shaft and the propeller is turned.

A diesel is the most economic heat engine providing the least proportional fuel consumption. With a power of up to 5,000-8,000 hp for one unit, diesels have a significantly smaller size and weight than the turbine units. All of this has caused the extensive use of diesels primarily on small displacement ships (missile launches, torpedo launches, minesweepers, small ASW ships and so forth) as well as on auxiliary vessels which are at sea for a long time and should have a significant range and endurance (hydrographic boats, rescue boats, supply vessels and so forth).

Incidentally, the world's first surface naval vessels with a diesel power unit were built in Russia in 1909. These were eight monitors for the Amur Naval Flotilla.

At present, diesels are being evermore widely used on many types and classes of ships. Their power has already reached 25,000 hp in one unit. Undoubtedly this will increase in the future.

Nuclear power units are now being evermore widely employed in navies. But this is the subject of another article.

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CSO: 1801/343

NAVAL FORCES

BETTER USE OF TRAINING CRUISE DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Jul 84 p 1

[Article by Capt 2d Rank L. Semenov, instructor of navigation chair of Higher Naval School of Radio Electronics imeni A. S. Popov, and commentary by Adm V. Samoylov, commander of Red Banner Leningrad Naval Base: "Notes on Cadets' Shipboard Practice: Training Miles of the 'Smol'nyy'"]

[Text] Blips from targets light up on the radar scope. The combat information center (BIP) of the training ship "Smol'nyy" is barely managing to perform calculations for issuing the data needed by the commander to assure the safe passing with oncoming vessels. The cruise route passes along lively sea lanes and the practice BIP where school cadets are standing an underway watch, which is operating in parallel with the authorized BIP, is not at all superfluous, especially as cadets O. Borisov, S. Yurin and others are performing duties knowledgeably. Their information is not scorned at the GKP [primary control station]--it is analyzed on an equal basis with the information coming over the primary channels.

The outlines of a drilling rig loom through the haze--oil development is under way on the shelf. The breath of the approaching Atlantic is becoming more and more perceptible, and this worries Petty Officer 1st Class Ye. Nazarov, who came on as an understudy to the officer of the deck, in a special way. A great deal is still uncustomary to him in this role but, being observant by nature, he grasps the essence of the navigation situation very quickly. Maintaining contact with the navigation training classroom where the cadets are standing watch, the petty officer promptly informs them about the objects which are appearing and about unplanned turns to a new course.

Strictly speaking, this is a navigation cruise and the lion's share of the time falls on the navigation watches. During precruise training every group of cadets performed a preliminary plot along one of the legs of the route, substantiating it with all necessary calculations. The cadets thoroughly studied the cruise plan from a general chart. And now they were delving in greater detail into all the features and details of the navigation situation on their nautical charts. Each one was trying to best apply the knowledge gained at school for graphic reckoning and position finding with all possible means including the radio navigation and astronavigation systems.

We instructors regularly assemble with the ship's officers to ponder how effectively the cadet practice is going. There are grounds for such reflections. Recently for example, executive officer Capt 2d Rank V. Imerekov conducted a demonstration "man overboard" drill well. The cadets carefully observed the navymen as they executed commands. It must be assumed that they assimilated the entire process for working the norm, but only theoretically. But were we to make one or two repetitions of this drill with the cadets themselves participating, there would be an entirely different effect.

The cadets' participation in firings conducted by the ship's crew also proved to be ill-conceived. Of course it is still rather early to entrust second-course cadets with independent conduct of firings, but they could have been included in the actions if only in a "silent version" with all machinery turned on. Reasons for a change in the ship's speed or course are not always announced to the navigation classroom. There are other points as well which require better coordination in the actions of the crew and cadets.

We try to correct some deficiencies as we go along, including a lack of conformity of the goals of practice to the curriculum. It is well that in a few days of precruise training we were able to give the cadets the fundamentals of maneuvering and using radar--both subjects are studied only in the third course. Otherwise what reckoning and position finding could there be! And you see that many are even plotting more and more confidently and giving the ship's position rather accurately from the stars and with the help of the sextant.

We enter the Strait of Gibraltar and determine our position from the beacons. We head across the Mediterranean. Ahead lies Istanbul, the unique bridge over the Bosphorus and extreme conditions: a dangerous, lively narrows. The entire crew is tense. Each person is doubly vigilant at his post, and the cadets are no exception: calculations, updates, reports...

And finally Sevastopol. There is an instructive mooring in an offshore wind and in the cramped confines of the berth. It is a pity that the cadets already have to disengage from the shipboard process and prepare for the train in good time. Much of benefit has been lost.

We bid farewell to the crew. The cruise left a good impression, but was everything possible gotten from the practice aboard the ship, which crossed the Atlantic and rounded Europe from north to south? This still has to be analyzed within the school walls.

Commentary by Adm V. Samoylov, commander of the Red Banner
Leningrad Naval Base.

The cruise in question received a good grade on the whole, but this does not at all mean that cadet practice cannot be more saturated and productive aboard ships. And in this sense some of the facts cited by the author of the notes are very symptomatic: for example, his comment that the cadets were not always informed of the reasons for a change in the ship's course and speed.

The primary control station must actively influence the training process of the trainees. A change in the situation in the theater of operation and the reason for particular evolutions must be information for the cadets' reflection and actions and must be used actively for training purposes. The cadets must be given broader initiative in obtaining, analyzing and generalizing information and in displaying the cruise and operational-tactical situation. We must try to see that the data they develop are used by control specialists, the officer of the deck, and the ship's commanding officer.

It is well that cadet combat information centers function during a cruise and there is a continuous navigation watch in the training classroom. But there is no benefit when there is much timid doubling and contemplative, passive forms of training. Why did the cadets only observe the "man overboard" drill and not take part in it? The same thing goes for performing combat exercises. What is the use of them observing gun fire from the side! Those responsible for organizing the practice should have seen to it that the cadets went through the entire firing process beginning with the preparation of equipment and initial data and ending with the compilation of charts and accounts.

A training cruise cannot be reduced to some one aspect of practice, such as just navigational practice. It is important for the future officer to live the life and concerns of the ship's crew and not stand apart from anything relating to nautical training. The sea is the best school for developing independence and initiative, for acquiring skills in indoctrinational work and in organizing competition, and for improving physical and moral-psychological conditioning.

We must resolutely reject a situation where, as sometimes happens, the practical training process is artificially distributed to certain shelves: on the first cruise only to obtain impressions and for familiarization, on the next only navigational practice and so on. All tasks must be accomplished as a complex, adhering strictly to the well-known principle of going from the simple to the complicated.

Analyses of each cruise and the generalization and adoption of foremost experience provide a great deal for working out the best "formula" for shipboard practice. There is no doubt that an analysis of the cruise by the "Smol'nyy" will provide much of value for making adjustments to the organization of subsequent training cruises.

6904

CSO: 1801/412

NAVAL FORCES

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 84 p 1

[Report by Capt-Lt Ye. Vodop'yanov, Red Banner Northern Fleet: "Bridge Across the Ocean"]

[Text] The stormy Atlantic tossed the large antisubmarine ship as if it had set the goal of hindering her crew in detecting and attacking the submarine as was outlined in the exercise plan. There was one feature here. They had to attack no earlier than, but also no later than, appropriate instructions would be received from the staff, which was thousands of nautical miles away from here. To port and starboard, up and down... The ship proceeded to the area for performance of the operational training mission with doors, hatches and access holes tightly battened down, as if with a lowered visor. A great deal now depended on the signalmen, who monitored the airwaves day and night awaiting the signal. Time passed, however, but the radio maintained its silence, only interrupted now and then by the rustle and whine of interference.

Another section was coming to an end for radio operators ashore when WO [Michman] D. Nasretidinov reported to Sr Lt V. Kokorka the receipt of a radio message which was awaited at sea. Now it had to be passed to the large anti-submarine ship. The service notes on the form with the segment of telegraph tape glued to it forced the officer to hurry, setting aside other matters for now. From that moment responsibility for the rapid, quality transmission of the radio message rested on the shoulders of his signalmen.

The radio communications specialists can be compared with bridgebuilders with a certain portion of conditionality, but while years go into building a bridge, it is a matter of seconds for signalmen. Just the following fact indicates the importance of their work: in the first half-year of the Great Patriotic War the radio receiving center of the Northern Fleet alone received more than 18,000 radio messages from ships, aircraft and shore stations. One hundred a day. Since then the demands have grown immeasurably on control in combat, wherein the nerve is communications. How many radio bridges are built here daily?

Nothing would seem simpler: tune to the necessary frequency and pass the message. But everything is much more complicated. Dozens of factors have to be

considered so as not to violate a single one of the requirements for communications: reliability, speed, security. It required the signalmen's special proficiency and their ability to use all capabilities of modern equipment at their disposal so that the radio bridge which had to be established was reliable and stable.

Dawn found the crew of the large antisubmarine ship at the battle stations. The sonarmen had just reported to the commander that the submarine with which they were maintaining contact had changed course sharply. Taking advantage of the storm which intermixed water layers, the "enemy" was again trying to break off from the antisubmarine personnel. The time was nearing for which the attack had been set but the prescribed signal still had not come.

"Dit-dit-dit-da..."--the chirp of Morse Code was heard in the headsets. Watch radio telegrapher Petty Officer 1st Class M. Andreyev went on the air. His hand confidently squeezed the round knob of the telegraph key, polished by his fingers. He had had to work just as intensely quite recently when the nuclear-powered cruiser "Kirov" was at sea. Then Andreyev and his comrades, radio telegraphers Sr Smn V. Morozov, Smn A. Shatkovskiy, Smn V. Shcherbakov and others, had maintained communications with the ship for several days. Not once during that time had the cruiser been in areas with stable passage of radio waves, but the "shore-ocean-shore" radio bridge functioned without interruption.

Soon the blank with the instruction text was already in the hands of the large antisubmarine ship commander, who had been on the bridge continuously. In a few more instants the general drill signal sounded above the ocean expanses, intermingling with the roar of the wind. The gray hulk of the ship swung sharply onto the attack course, breaking the storm wave. The exercise had entered the deciding phase.

The watch had not yet ended when the shore received a radio message from aboard the ship at sea. Noting its time of receipt in the watch log, Sr Lt Kokorka knew for sure that this was a report about the successful conclusion of the exercise, and that is what it turned out to be. The radio bridge over the ocean had functioned reliably.

6904

CSO: 1801/412

SPECIAL TROOPS

RADIO INTERFERENCE USED IN TRAINING SPECIALISTS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jul 84 p 1

[Article by WO [Praporshchik] A. Byshok, 1st class specialist, Central Group of Forces: "Under Conditions of Interference"]

[Text] The column had barely left the motor pool when radio chief WO [Praporshchik] A. Kravchenko already was establishing communications with the subscribers. Audibility was excellent, but the work became more complicated after an hour of movement, when the communicators arrived in the mountainous area.

They set up standard antennas and WO Kravchenko achieved reliable communications by maneuvering them. The other teams also functioned skillfully.

In practice combat communicators have their missions to perform. Of course they have to take up weapons, repel attacks by sabotage groups and restore lines under fire, but they win the most important victories over the air. And so now communications with one of the subscribers suddenly deteriorated sharply: the "enemy" had used directional jamming. Well, communicators constantly must be ready for such situations. In revealing the concept of "fighting in a modern way" at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries, CPSU Central Committee Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov also spoke about the ability to function under conditions of massive electronic jamming created by the enemy.

The signal company commanded by Sr Lt V. Goptarev has done much to master such an art.

"I'm shifting to an alternate frequency," said WO Kravchenko, reporting the decision he had made.

"But the 'enemy' was able to use jamming against just one subscriber," said the subunit commander, disagreeing. "Give him the alternate frequency. Continue to operate on the primary frequency with the other subscribers."

Yes, there is something to learn from Sr Lt Goptarev, who has a master's combat qualification. Moving from vehicle to vehicle, the company commander

carefully observed his subordinates' actions. Nothing escaped his gaze. For example, the officer was satisfied with WO A. Borisov's work. The warrant officer also has a higher rating and provides communications under the most unfavorable conditions.

The company commander specifically was concerned with seeing that there was no easy situation in the classes. Once he entered a training classroom. Outwardly everything was normal; each person was studying and perfecting skills, but everyone was working in a band where there was least interference and where it isn't necessary to "sweat," as the saying goes. Sr Lt Goptarev cancelled the class and instructed that it be held on personal time and without oversimplifications. Then the question of the quality of the training process was brought up for discussion by battalion party members at his initiative. The discussion was sharp and principled.

In addition to other things, they decided to set up a more contemporary training facility. A classroom soon appeared where interference that is comprehensive in nature is produced. Added to electronic interference are the sounds and flashes of shots and of bursts of artillery and mortar rounds, and the noise of aircraft... Not everyone was able to confirm his previous results in this classroom, and this did not just concern the young specialists. WO A. Teleshchuk, a 2d Class specialist, also made a mistake once. He had difficulty receiving a satisfactory grade in the presence of heavy interference. He didn't have enough psychological conditioning.

The company commander began to work with the warrant officer under an individual program with a stopwatch in his hand. He would place strict demands and provide businesslike advice as well.

Teleshchuk encountered an especially complicated situation in the present exercise. Despite all efforts, the radio chief did not succeed in getting rid of the interference. He reported to the communications duty officer his decision to change not only the frequency, but also the operating band. The company commander praised his subordinate for this decision: the correct solution had been found. The warrant officer has a good knowledge of the equipment and its capabilities.

The exercise was very difficult for the subunit. They had practically no occasion to work without interference but the company, in which more than 60 percent of the personnel are specialists with a higher rating and which is confirming the title of outstanding for the second year in a row, coped with the mission. That was the conclusion of Col N. Gur'yev, chief of the Group signal troops, who gave a high evaluation of the signalmen's special training and psychological conditioning.

6904
CSO: 1801/412

SPECIAL TROOPS

IMPROVEMENTS IN TRAINING OF RADIO SPECIALISTS NOTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Aug 84 p 1

[Article by Maj Ye. Kraynov: "En Route to the Finish: Pledge Fulfillment Is Under Strict Supervision"]

[Text] It doesn't seem long ago that our signal subunit personnel made pledges in socialist competition. But the fast-moving time already is bringing us to the finish stretch, figuratively speaking, and we have to examine whether or not everything is being done to take the planned goals successfully.

For example, almost 92 percent of the soldiers pledged to have a higher rating. The plans are to take this indicator even higher among officers and warrant officers--all of them must become 1st or 2d class specialists without exception. But then we concluded some time back that if the effectiveness of radio operator training was not improved, these pledges would be threatened. Just where was slack discovered? The training facility had fallen behind the increased level of demands for training masters of the airwaves. The subunit innovators took up the task at the recommendation of Col V. Makarov.

In a short time WO [Praporshchik] I. Chernen'kiy, Pvt Yu. Tonkiy and other innovators actually re-equipped the radio training area anew. Now the radio operator practices began to be held in a more intense situation akin to combat, under conditions of jamming and with the sound effects of modern combined-arms combat. Almost half of the exercises now are worked under nighttime conditions. Here is what is noteworthy. As soon as those complications appeared, even some 1st Class specialists began to make mistakes, but that didn't last long. On the other hand, now the radiotelegraphers function much more confidently. As a result the quality with which operational readiness duty is performed has improved noticeably.

Lt G. Stanin displayed useful initiative. A graduate of the Kemerovo Higher Military Command School of Communications last year, he gives much attention to subordinates' special training, keeps a strict account of the radiotelegraphers' individual training, and knows their strong and weak sides. Working with each soldier separately under individual schedules for program mastery, Stanin saw to it that his subordinates presently fulfill the norms at one level higher than the class rating they have.

I will note, by the way, that more than half of the NCO's and privates in our subunit became 1st Class specialists after 1½ years of service. Among them are Jr Sgt S. Kobzenko, Pfc A. Nelin, Pvt A. Grin' and others. All of them now are reliable assistants to the officers and warrant officers in training young communicators.

It has become a firm rule for us to analyze the status of the training process daily and to assess the soldiers' level of training with all completeness. The constantly functioning methods commission, set up at the commander's order, has much work and concern in this regard. It includes the best signal specialists and experienced methods specialists Maj V. Shtrykul', Capt A. Vidin and Capt A. Mokretsov. At the subunit commander's direction, the officers check the soldiers' level of special training if necessary and faultlessly determine where they have to "press" and what aspects of training must be given special attention. Commission members persistently look for bits of new and foremost elements in organizing classes and socialist competition so as then to make the experience of the best personnel common property.

Party members are working with the greatest output these days. Their personal example generates a burning desire in all soldiers to assault the heights of proficiency. Recently for example subunit party buro secretary Capt A. Vidin and his deputy Capt V. Korolev--both of them 1st Class specialists--showed young radio operators the foremost techniques of working on communications equipment and demonstrated its high combat capabilities. The officers' masterly actions sparked admiration in the young people. It is not surprising that the privates began to regard classes even more zealously after this demonstration.

Lt Yu. Romanov was heard recently at a party buro session. There were deficiencies in radiotelegraphers' training in the platoon he commands, and they had a noticeable effect on the level of specialist training. The party buro's recommendations were useful and the gaps in work with radio operators decreased. A hearing for party member WO P. Bezzubov also was beneficial.

Of course, the subunit Komsomol organization headed by Pfc Yu. Krivtsov also is not remaining aloof from these matters. Its work livened up especially after the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries. At the initiative of the Komsomol committee contests for best radio operator and technical quizzes are being held, and Komsomol spot inspections have become frequent. Recently the participants of a spot inspection checked how Komsomol members regarded periodic technical servicing of signal equipment. The best ones were determined and deficiencies were identified. The Komsomol committee immediately informed all Komsomol members of the results and devoted a special leaflet to the foremost soldiers. The leaflet was posted in the room where communicators perform operational readiness duty.

Speaking generally about the present training toil, it can be noted that training is going on with great intensity. We will bend every effort and will achieve unconditional fulfillment of our pledges.

CIVIL DEFENSE

NEED FOR CIVIL DEFENSE PLANNING IN FACTORIES DISCUSSED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
pp 30-31

[Article by special correspondent V. Sinyutin: "Survivability"]

[Text] Our correspondent reflects on certain organizational and moral aspects for readying installations for operating under difficult conditions.

Leningrad, Stachek Prospect, the end of January 1984. The tall, handsome buildings and the even, clean cobblestones. It was difficult to imagine what existed here 40 years ago....

A talk had just ended with people to whom one wished to bow deeply and say many kind words. Mariya Yefimovna Pavlenkova, Yelena Ivanovna Myagkaya, Zinaida Yakovlevna Alekseyeva.... They did not have any combat orders and each had just two medals "For the Defense of Leningrad" and "For Valorous Labor in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945." But they had made a contribution and a major one to the fact that the city of Lenin became a hero.

During all 900 days of the blockade they were here, in Leningrad, in the ring of fire, where bombs and shells rained down from above and the ice-covered floor crunched under your feet, when your head swam from exhaustion, but it was necessary to remain by the ovens (where the smell of bread lingered but you could not take the crumbs), stand duty on the roof, and unload the scows carrying firewood.

The then 18-year-old girls who are now grandmothers described how here, on Stachek Prospect where the windows of the Krasnaya Zarya Bakery look down, bombs and shells exploded, how they extinguished the incendiary bombs, disassembled wooden structures and pushed the heavy beams into the courtyard, closer to the furnaces. In interrupting one another and at times with tears in their eyes, they recalled the bitter days, at times they drew unexpected conclusions and made strict admonishments which, I would say, we do not have the right to disregard.

"The first winter of the war," said Mariya Yefimovna, "descended on the city like a terrible calamity. They first closed our Krasnaya Zor'ka [plant] and sent us to the trenches. We returned later and it turned out that many bakeries

could not operate as there was no water. In our courtyard was a well in good condition. Due to it the plant came alive and many people began to receive the sustaining "125 blockade grams with half-fire and half-blood...."

As for the well, it survived and now, securely covered, has been put in good condition.

"Now in a few minutes we can switch the production process to well water," explained the CD [Civil Defense] Chief of Staff at the bakery, Nikolay Aleksandrovich Zinov'yev, with pride. "Several years ago we did not have such an opportunity...."

The harsh times of the blockade have gone and retreated, water reappeared in the water line and the well which saved many lives was forgotten. Time, as is known, has not only creative force, but also destructive. The well pump rusted and broke down and the walls began collapsing. Certain rash heads were in favor of dumping rubbish there. Fortunately, this did not happen.

"During my stay as the chief of staff here, at the bakery, several directors have changed," related N. Zinov'yev. "No matter how much I proved and persuaded that the well had to be rebuilt and put into order, and that it could still serve well, it was useless. Either the plan was more important, either there was no money or they simply disregarded this. My thanks to Aleksandr Nikolayevich Khromin...."

Aleksandr Nikolayevich has been working as the director of Krasnaya Zarya for 3 years. He looked favorably upon the proposals of his CD chief of staff to increase the survivability of the installation. Specialists were found and they rebuilt the motor, and they strengthened and rebuilt the collapsed parts of the walls. There were expenditures and troubles but now water, when necessary, can be delivered directly from the well to the shop.

"It happened that in the summer of 1983 we used well water for more than a month," related the CD chief of staff at the bakery, "and it met our needs and the production process did not stop for a minute."

The veterans who survived the blockade also described this event. They had high praise for the tenacity of the CD chief of staff, the circumspection and good management of the director who is the plant CD chief, Aleksandr Nikolayevich Khromin, and who has done a great deal to improve CD at the enterprise.

In the course of this conversation I recalled a statement by the CD chief of staff at one of the installations in Alma-Ata. He was complaining that the director did not want to be concerned with CD questions, he disregarded them and felt they were secondary. There have also been instances when CD measures have seemingly been carried out, time was spent on them but there was no real benefit.

Unfortunately, all of this is true. There are individual officials who possess the essential rights and opportunities but who live merely for the present and the immediate needs and concerns. They do not bother themselves with drawing practical conclusions from a sober assessment of the situation in the world

and the pending danger of the outbreak of war. They lack the foresight, the bold management and desire to ascertain ahead of time the opportunities for increasing the dependable work of the installations under difficult conditions and to embody these in life. In affirmation of these words, one might point to the idleness of the previous directors of Krasnaya Zarya who disregarded the well.

Formalism in CD questions are like deception. "Sham" exercises which at times show up in the reports and indifference to the future of the enterprise cause great moral harm to the collective. And because of this people may become indifferent to important defense measures. But a constant carrying out of tasks related to preparing an installation for work under difficult conditions has an inspiring effect and instills in the people a confidence in their own forces and the forces of the collective and in the possibility of defense against weapons of mass destruction.

In reflecting, so to speak, about the fate of the well which could serve as a unique moral lesson, I asked the CD chief of staff at the bakery, when we were walking past the heat-belching ovens:

"Nikolay Aleksandrovich, what would happen if suddenly the delivery of gas stopped?"

"As they say, this is a real possibility. In this instance we have an alternate plan," he replied.

Soon thereafter we approached a neatly stacked pile of firewood. At any moment this could be used for maintaining the required temperature in the ovens.

When we turned to the protection of the workers and employees, the CD chief of staff of the installation with pride swung open the doors of the shelter. Here all in readiness were a filter ventilating unit and the control point had been provided with the necessary communications and warning. In one of the rooms they stored supplies of gear and equipment which might be needed in the future. The people knew how to best make their way to the shelter and what position they should take.

The chief of staff also showed me the reserve diesel generators. One, in truth, was old but many times had come to the aid of the bakers. One was a new one, recently installed and well fixed. Prior to this it had been at another analogous enterprise, standing in the courtyard in its plant crating. There the unit seemed in the way and with hurried ease they turned it over to opportunely interested comrades. But they were just as much in need of an alternate energy source as Krasnaya Zarya.

At the bakery they find time and opportunities to conduct the necessary exercises with all the shifts at the established times. The CD activists A. Vasil'yev, Ye. Kalistratova, V. Murfutenko and T. Fomina excel in good training. They constantly show initiative and tenacity in resolving the questions involved in increasing the survivability of their enterprise and skillfully train subordinates. Their efforts have contributed largely to the fact that the

Krasnaya Zarya Bakery in terms of the results of the last CD training year was the best in one of the administrations of the Leningrad Gorispolkom.

As we see, the quality of solving CD questions depends largely upon the maturity of the leaders, their initiative and efficiency. It is hard to find any justification for those chiefs of staffs and CD activists who tolerate the passivity of their unfortunate superiors and do not show proper tenacity in resolving the questions of Civil Defense which is an important state concern. In such instances it is essential to turn to the party bodies and to the community and not fear a spoiling of relationships. Of course, the questions touched upon in this article are merely facets in a range of problems to improve the survivability of installations. For the survivability of an installation is a diverse concept and it requires a comprehensive approach, great organizational and physical effort and definite material outlays. The history of the well at the Krasnaya Zarya Bakery and the concern of the MPVO [local air defense] veterans are concrete affirmation of this.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

POLITICAL ORGANIZATION OF ARMENIAN CIVIL DEFENSE DISCUSSED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
p 20

[Article by Col Ye. Khrenkov, deputy chief of staff of the Armenian Civil Defense for Political Affairs: "Confidence Obliges"]

[Text] In determining the work prospects for this year, the party bureau of the Armenian CD [Civil Defense] Staff set for itself the task of organizing things so that the contribution of each CPSU member would be greater to carrying out the designated plans. The basic emphasis has been put on improving work style and ensuring professionalism and organization.

The party bureau has outlined an entire range of organizational and party political measures which are based upon individual work with each CPSU member considering the range of his duties, job experience, the level of professional training and personal qualities. The CPSU members V. Akopyan, E. Shatvoryan and M. Arutyunyan have proven to be skillful organizers of political indoctrination for subordinates.

Proceeding from the provisions of the June (1983) and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, the staff party bureau is constantly concerned for increasing the ideological-theoretical and professional training of the communists. Scientific practical conferences and talks are widely held on the general party documents and there are also individual discussions with the CPSU members.

There was vital interest in the recently held talk: "Ideological Work-- A Concern of the Entire Party and Each Communist." Here praise was given to the constant desire of the CPSU member S. Allakhverdyan to increase his ideological and theoretical training. Sergey Sarkisovich [Allakhverdyan] with enviable endeavor has broadened and deepened his knowledge of Marxism-Leninism. As a staff officer, he was accustomed to carry out any matter according to a precisely elaborated plan and party political studies are no exception. His comments at exercises on Marxist-Leninist training and conferences are marked by a firm knowledge of the examined questions and by a depth of analysis.

Individual colloquiums have also been conducted with the staff communists. The party bureau has concluded that a majority of them are thoroughly studying the theory of Marxism-Leninism and the party documents and skillfully employ the

acquired knowledge in their work with others. But at the same time, when CPSU members were instructed to speak to the staff personnel giving lectures, political information sessions or a talk, individual officers and employees agreed without the proper interest and some of them frankly admitted that they were unable to do this. There were also comrades who considered the given work a concern only of the political workers or specially trained lecturers.

The party organization secretary K. Bagyan decided to discuss these facts at the party bureau. A decree was adopted to oblige all the CPSU members who are leaders to periodically speak before the personnel giving talks, lectures and reports, to strengthen control over the quality of preparing for and giving the exercises and in the political studies and CD propaganda to draw on the experience of the veterans of the war and MPVO [local air defense] who comprise one-third of all the republic staff workers.

Our veterans have provided active aid to the Komsomol organization. From the example of the national economic enterprises, the sponsorship movement has been given a clear field at the republic staff. Thus, the communists A. Saakyan and S. Avakyan have trained several civil defense specialists.

The staff party organization pays constant attention to maintaining firm discipline and organization. For this purpose the party bureau members are steadily improving supervision and the check on execution.

A check on execution, the party teaches, should be systematic, but not formal but rather principled and effective. The staff party bureau has focused its basic efforts on increasing the responsibility of each communist for carrying out their official and party duty. Practice shows that a very effective form for this work is the giving of self-reports at party meetings and sessions of the party bureau on their fulfillment of the party By-Laws, on their attitude toward official duties and on their personal contribution to improving CD.

At the meetings and sessions of the party bureau, self-reports were heard by the communists from all the leading subdivisions, party group organizers and political study group leaders. Not so long ago a report was given by the leader of the staff administrative service. He organized his comments using examples which, it seemed to him, should confirm that the service was successfully carrying out all its tasks. However, the incensed speaker was quickly besieged with facts. The bureau members referred to specific mistakes in the performing of his official duties. The motor transport had not been overhauled on time, there was no proper supply of spare parts and clear planning was lacking. The party bureau was strict in pointing out the communist's shortcomings in his work and demanded a change in his attitude toward performing official obligations.

The June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee pointed out that it was exceptionally important to see to it that words never diverge from deeds and that the essence of a deed is not replaced by mere form. The party organization of the Armenian CD staff is concerned primarily with this. Proceeding from the military-political situation which has come into being in the world today, our party bureau, like the entire staff, gives great attention to the questions of providing help to the national economic installations in increasing survivability. Certain comrades have a party assignment of working at those enterprises

where CD had still not been fully developed. Thus, for example, a year ago the CPSU member G. Ioanisyanyan was assigned the Promsvyaz' [Industrial Communications] Plant, and A. Sanoyan was sent to the Almaz [Diamond] Plant. Today these installations are among the best and the Promsvyaz' Plant has even won a prize place in the 1983 socialist competition. Supervising the course of building protective installations and the quality of their upkeep is a permanent assignment for the communists.

Effective work with the personnel is being carried out by the staff communists directly at the national economic installations during the period of exercises and before them. In Artikskiy Rayon at the Steklomash [Glass Machinery] and Artiktuf Plants, the carpet combine and the Panik Kolkhoz, the CPSU members S. Agavelyan, V. Torosyan, E. Stavoryan and V. Avakimov have been helping the party organization secretaries. They have taken a most active part in all the planned measures. Direct practical work with the secretaries of the shop party organizations and the deputy commanders for political affairs in the formations on the spot, instruction sessions, advice and exercises have helped to improve the CD knowledge by the party activists at the enterprises.

At the report-election meeting last year more than one-half of the personnel of the staff party bureau was replaced. A new secretary heads the party organization. However, the style of work has remained the same and is characterized by professionalism and exactingness. This helps in solving many questions which now confront us.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING IN PIONEER CAMPS EXAMINED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
p 27

[Article by N. Kononov, Master of production training at the Chapayev CD Courses in Kuybyshev Oblast: "Two Days in a Pioneer Camp"]

[Text] A senior master (master) of production training is obliged "to provide help to the chiefs of the Pioneer camps in organizing training sessions, competitions, contests and military sports games with the obligatory incorporation in them of Civil Defense questions, particularly questions of defense against weapons of mass destruction."

(From the Regulation Governing Civil Defense Courses)

For 7 years now I have been helping the workers of Pioneer camps as a master of production training for the CD [Civil Defense] courses in preparing and conducting various CD measures. The last 3 years I have been assigned to two camps, Chapayevets and Yasnaya Polyana. They are 15 km from the city, directly next to one another and are good neighbors. They have completely satisfactory training facilities for CD.

Previously, when our motor club was running well, the question of traveling to the Pioneer camps was easily solved. But several years ago the driver was dismissed and it was hard to find a replacement for him. For this reason I had to get there by passing vehicle and spend traveling a portion of the time from those 2 days which had been assigned to the master of production training for work in the Pioneer camps. Naturally, this complicated things and required an ability to rationally plan and organize my work.

I arrive at the Pioneer camp 3 or 4 days after the children arrive there. During the first half of the day (before lunch) in instructor-procedural exercises with the leaders and teachers I explain the organization and method for conducting the contests, drills, competitions and military sports games provided by the CD work plan. They are most of all interested in strictly practical questions such as: where to find gas masks and other necessary supplies, when and how to conduct CD measures, what incentive measures are to be employed for the children and so forth. I endeavor whenever possible to answer each question so

that those present have a clear program of actions. I do not stint on examples from previous experience, particularly when it is a matter of organizational questions as then things are more persuasive and weightier.

In working with the children of great importance is not only the content of the measures but also their external aspect or attractiveness. It is important what the ceremony of awarding the winners looks like, whether it is held in a routine, dull manner or evokes interest and strengthens the children's attention to CD.

An example in this regard is the Pioneer Camp Yasnaya Polyana. Here in a pedagogically intelligent manner they employ a system of commendation for the children who have distinguished themselves in conducting CD measures. They are presented with books, pencil cases, checkers, chess games and commemorative photo postcards. The ablest and most knowledgeable are presented with the insignias "Be Ready for USSR Civil Defense." I always employ this positive experience in exercises with the leaders and teachers.

A matter of special discussion is the safety measures in conducting the CD exercises. During the military sports games the children must make their way through thickets, cross steep ravines and sometimes cross a river in boats, acting under conditions where a nuclear explosion is simulated by smoke-puff charges. I remind both the leaders, the teachers and the children of the safety measures.

During my first day of the stay in the Pioneer camp during the afternoon together with the camp leader, we clarify the plan for conducting the measures and list the available training facilities. Year by year and from class to class the training facilities improve and much is very willingly done by the Pioneers themselves. They make ratchets for simulating machine gun fire, models of weapons (pistols and submachine guns), mine detectors and so forth. Thus, last year at the Pioneer Yasnaya Polyana, new mock-ups of tanks, guns and even missile units were made to replace the worn out ones.

During the second half of the day (after the "quiet" hour), directly in the ranks I conduct demonstration exercises for the leaders and teachers. Usually here we work out such questions as the procedures for using a gas mask, the layout and design of simple type shelters, the conducting of partial decontamination after crossing an area of "radioactive (chemical) contamination." I am convinced that such practical exercises must be conducted at the start of each class and here more attention must be given to those subjects which cause difficulties for the leaders and teachers.

Many years of experience have shown that the working out of the procedures for using a gas mask is basically successfully done, as in the school the children study the gas mask and drill in performing the procedures. However, they are not always precise in the terminology as the filter box is at times called a tank and the connecting tube a hose. But this question is easily rectified.

It is harder for the children to lay out and plan a shelter. Here a lack of practical experience is obviously felt as it is difficult to acquire the necessary skills at exercises if they are held in a classroom and not in a training camp.

But the most serious difficulties arise in conducting a drill for partial decontamination as this usually involves all the Pioneers of a detachment. Here particular care and even scrupulousness is required. It is important not to allow inaccuracies in going through the procedures. For this reason I try to allocate more time for the drill on partial decontamination.

After the demonstration exercises I inspect the CD corners in the detachments and the general camp class exhibit. If I note shortcomings, I help eliminate them. Thus ends the first day of the stay of the master of production training for the CD courses in a Pioneer camp.

I go there a second time on the day of holding the military sports games.

From the very first minutes I am involved in the work. I endeavor to learn about the degree of preparedness for the game and help eliminate hitches. The entire first half of the second day of the stay in the Pioneer camp goes for an inspection. I inspect the detachments and verify from the work report log what has been done in the area of CD prior to the game, how preparations for this have been carried out and take an interest in the mood of the children. During the "quiet" hour I am involved in a meeting for the leaders, teachers, commanders of the Young Armymen subdivisions and the umpires.

At this meeting the game plan is clarified and the complete preparedness for the game is checked. Here I again draw attention to the need of strictly observing safety measures, I give the work procedure for the umpires and ask them as well as the arriving guests to take places where they could be clearly seen by the game participants. Let the children know that they are being watched and their actions are being judged and they will endeavor to do everything as well as possible.

The military sports game begins with the signal "Air Alert" at which the children should take shelter in the previously assigned place. Between the signal "All Clear" and the assembly of the Young Armymen at the general-camp boundary for receiving the order, I go through the call signs for radio communications, I verify that the umpires have evaluation sheets and I remind them again of their duties. Incidentally, I should say that in my practice there has been no instance of dissatisfaction with the work of the umpires or disagreement over their grade.

During the game I myself endeavor to follow the actions of the Young Armymen on all the lines, particularly those where they go through CD questions. I note down the outstanding subdivisions, the names of their commanders and individual participants and, of course, the shortcomings. I also obtain rather detailed information from the umpires. The shortcomings disclosed in the course of the game clearly evidence certain failings in the school training for CD and we, the course workers, have drawn the attention of the teachers of the second grades and the class leaders of the fifth grades to this during the exercises for them.

The second day of the stay of the master of production training in a Pioneer camp ends with his participation in the summing up of the results and the awarding of those who distinguish themselves in the game.

Many years of experience have given me the right to say in conclusion that the 2 days per session are clearly not enough for a master. In addition to the military-sports game, the Pioneer camps also hold other general camp CD measures which require his participation and educational aid, for example, the CD days, competitions and contests. At least one other day would be essential. These additional time expenditures are completely justified as the Pioneer camp has the best opportunities for the school children to acquire practical skills in CD. It is no accident that the children who have undergone the corresponding training in the Pioneer camp excel over their classmates in their resourcefulness and ability to intelligently employ the equipment and means of defense against modern weapons.

I would like to voice a request also for the CD chiefs of staffs of the national economic installations namely that you provide more practical help for the sponsored Pioneer camps in improving the training facilities for CD. This is extremely essential.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

SAMARKAND CIVIL DEFENSE PROGRAM LACKS FULL PARTICIPATION

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
pp 30-31

[Article by M. Matviyenko: "At the Place of Residence"]

[Text] Samarkand Oblast has gained a good deal of experience in providing instruction on the methods of defense against weapons of mass destruction and propagandizing Civil Defense [CD] in a residential district among the public not employed in production and the service sphere. For example, in Siabskiy Rayon of Samarkand a great deal of attention is given to the making up of training groups, to selecting and training the exercise leaders and to creating training facilities.

The entire territory of the rayon has been divided into 18 quadrants. In each of these are 6-10 makhalla (block) committees which are headed by workers from the rayon organizations. Under their leadership and supervision, training is organized for the public in CD directly at the place of residence and leaders are selected for the exercises from the retired communists and other activists of the housing committees.

With the help of the rayon CD forces, the results of the last training year were summed up with all the leaders of the training groups and the task for the new year were set. The participants in the exercises acquired the necessary educational training for the subjects of the programs and took quizzes for 13 standards.

The exercises were conducted in the wintertime in the red chaykhanas [tearooms], houses of culture and clubs and in the summer in open squares and courtyards where the required training areas can be set up. Schedules of exercises are drawn up and these are approved by the CD chief of the rayon, Z. Badalov.

In propagandizing CD at the place of residence, in organically correlating this with the planned exercise, special evening meetings have become widespread. In particular, such an evening was successfully held in the block imeni gazeta LENINSKIY PUT' organized by the block committee and the principal of School No 8, S. Turkulov. Initially, lecturers from the oblast CD staff, the oblast courses and the medical institute conducted talks with the local residents on

the following subjects: "American Imperialism--The Evil Enemy of the Peoples of the World and the Tasks of Strengthening National Defense," "Means of Individual Protection and the Rules for Using Them," and "First Aid to Injured (Methods of Stopping Hemorrhaging and the Treating of Burns)." The talks were accompanied by the demonstrating of the actual methods of putting on gas masks, making simple equipment for individual protection and providing first aid and aid to oneself.

The evening ended with a performance of the amateur artistic collective of the House of Culture No 3 (Director, Kh. Dzhurayeva). Amateur filmmakers filmed all of this and now a film on the special evening is being shown in the other districts of the city.

In the block imeni Chapayev (Chairman of the Block Committee and veteran of the Great Patriotic War, P. Ganiyev), they held a special evening on "Civil Defense --A Concern of Each and Every One." Talks on "Warning Signals of Civil Defense and Corresponding Actions," "What the Population Must Know About Evacuation and Dispersion" and "Means of Individual Protection and the Rules for Using Them" were given by the rayon CD chief of staff, V. Manuilov, the chief of the rayon CD courses, K. Dvalidze and the master of production training, M. Asanova. Then the participants of the evening were shown the films "Study Civil Defense" and "If the Alert Sounds."

It is important to note that such special evenings conducted directly in the blocks of a residential sector not only supplement the planned exercises with pensioners and housewives but also encourages them to take an active part in the CD measures. In certain blocks the participants of the evening meetings have competed to see who can carry out one or another norm better and faster and this by itself helps to reinforce the acquired knowledge and skills.

The cultural institutions and the mass information media also help in effectively propagandizing Civil Defense among the population. Thus, a collective from the City Unified Library (Director, Kh. Rustamova) has been constantly concerned for providing complete literature published on the CD question, it puts out reviews of new books and holds reader conferences. The head of Library No 2, Ye. Sal'kova, has organized mobile libraries of literature on CD and these have been widely used by the exercise leaders and the trainees of the blocks.

The Samarkand Shark Yhulduzi [Star of the East] movie house, under the leadership of the director, Kh. Kadyrov, for many years has been regularly showing popular scientific films on CD and gives movie lecture series as well as showing training films before the start of the features.

The basic aim of the movie lecture series is to help the workers and white collar personnel, the student youth and the nonworking citizens (pensioners and housewives) to better master the CD programs. Annually the movie theater concludes contracts with the housing committees and administrations for traveling movie showings for the winter and summer periods, with the precise designating of the time, the place and name of the film. Here particular concern is shown for the residents of new residential areas where as yet there are no special movie theaters.

In order to further activate the involvement of the cultural institutions in the propagandizing of CD among the population, including at the place of residence, the oblast CD staff jointly with the oblast cultural administration, prior to the start of the training year, conducted a seminar with the heads of the cultural departments of the soviet executive committees, the directors of the houses of culture and movie theaters and the heads of libraries. Here they examined in detail the forms and methods of propagandizing CD using the forces and facilities of these institutions and experience was exchanged.

However, as was pointed out at the seminar, the opportunities for instructing the population and propagandizing CD are still far from fully utilized. In particular, the Samarkand City Housing Administration has remained on the sidelines of this important question and it has done little to monitor the course of instruction in the residential committees.

The same criticism can also be leveled at the Znaniye [Knowledge] Society, the trade union organizations, the Houses of Culture Nos 1 and 2 of Zheleznodorozhnyy Rayon, the Railroad Club and the Central Park of Culture and Rest. These and other cultural institutions, in being directly under the Chief of the Cultural Administration N. Yarbabayev still do not participate in the CD measures. We feel that the criticism will be considered and the necessary measures taken.

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DOSAAF

YEGOROV CALLS FOR IMPROVING DOSAAF TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 84 p 2

[Article by Flt Adm G. Yegorov, USSR DOSAAF Central Committee chairman:
"DOSAAF: School of Patriotism"]

[Text] While consistently and firmly carrying out a Leninist peace-loving foreign policy course, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its Central Committee show steady concern for keeping the country's defense might and the USSR Armed Forces' combat might at the proper level. Comrade K. U. Chernenko emphasized at a meeting with workers of the Moscow Serp i molot Metallurgical Plant that so long as military and political tension exists and so long as nuclear missile danger on the part of the United States and NATO countries hovers over our country, we must keep our powder dry and always be on guard.

The valorous USSR Armed Forces stand guard over the peaceful labor of our country and its allies. The Voluntary Society for Cooperation with the Armed Forces rightly is considered their reliable assistant and reserve. The CPSU Central Committee greeting to the 9th All-Union DOSAAF Congress held in February of last year gave a high appraisal to the Defense Society's work. The greeting expressed firm assurance that the USSR DOSAAF would continue to actively assist the party in further strengthening national defenses and in preparing workers for defense of the socialist homeland. Defense Society workers and activists are striving to respond by action to the party's high evaluation of its work.

It must be said that the tasks set for DOSAAF are many-sided: military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth, preparation of young men for Army and Navy service, propaganda of military knowledge, and the development of technical and applied military sports; along with this naturally goes the training of specialists for the national economy. Every third draftee now receives a specialty in DOSAAF training organizations. Each year more than two million persons master technical trades needed for the national economy in our schools, clubs and courses.

In the time which has gone by since the 9th All-Union DOSAAF Congress the Society grew by almost three million persons, strengthened organizationally, and was enriched with new experience in military-patriotic and mass defense

work. Its popularity rose among the workers and youth. Today DOSAAF brings together more than 105 million Soviet citizens in its ranks.

Last year the best results in work were achieved by winners of the All-Union Socialist Competition of Defense Collectives--the DOSAAF organizations of Belorussia and Latvia and of Amur, Bryansk, Kuybyshev and Omsk oblasts. The DOSAAF organizations of Krasnoyarsk Kray and of Voronezh, Irkutsk and other oblasts took a noticeable stride forward.

The most important direction in DOSAAF's practical activity is the indoctrination of Defense Society members in a spirit of Soviet patriotism and internationalism, high political vigilance, class hatred for imperialism, and constant readiness to defend the socialist Motherland. Time and experience developed effective forms of military-patriotic work in the DOSAAF system. This includes the Lenin and sociopolitical readings, universities and clubs of the future soldier, the lecture bureaus, draftee rallies, courage lessons, meetings with war veterans and much more. DOSAAF members participate actively in the All-Union Tour of Komsomol Members and the Youth to Places of Revolutionary, Combat and Labor Glory of the Communist Party and Soviet People, in the "Great Patriotic War Annals" search expedition, and in military sports games.

Sponsorship ties of defense collectives with military units, ships, and border guard outposts play an important role in the military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth. Many DOSAAF committees, schools and clubs constantly arrange meetings with people on leave--privates, seamen and officers. DOSAAF members and the soldiers conduct joint theme nights, athletic competitions and tours to battle sites.

At the same time, not all DOSAAF committees carry out a creative search for new, effective forms and methods of indoctrinating people. There are many omissions in lecture work and in the selection and training of propagandists. Businesslike contacts have not been arranged everywhere with the mass media. For example, such deficiencies are inherent to the DOSAAF committees of Tajikistan, Estonia, the Kalmyk ASSR, and Murmansk and Chita oblasts.

Military-patriotic work gains special importance now when our country is heading for the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory. Comrade K. U. Chernenko said in a speech at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries that "we must be even more determined to instil in young people a feeling of love for the Motherland, hatred for her enemies, high political and class vigilance, and constant readiness for an exploit. This work must be done in such a way that it contains less twaddle and more creativeness and innovative search."

Success in the Defense Society's work is forged in the primary organizations. Take for example the DOSAAF primary organization of the Order of Lenin Penzhimmash Plant, where much is being done under the party committee's direction to improve the young people's preparation for military duty and to develop technical and applied military sports. A majority of the enterprise's workers and employees are in DOSAAF ranks. The plant training point functions

effectively. Draftees master the specialties of radiotelegrapher, parachutist and motorcyclist.

The board and party committee of the Nakotne Kolkhoz of LaSSR show great concern for preparing young people for military service. The DOSAAF primary organization functions productively here. The young people have at their disposal aircraft, gliders, motor vehicles, racing motorcycles and other equipment. It is no accident that many young men in this kolkhoz take a great interest in aviation and motor vehicle sport and achieve high results in sport competitions.

The DOSAAF committees persistently strive to increase the activeness and fighting spirit of primary collectives and to turn them into centers of mass defense work. It has to be admitted, however, that we have taken only the first steps in carrying out this important task. Socialist competition under the motto "Make a worthy contribution toward strengthening the Motherland's defense might" initiated by DOSAAF primary collectives of the Kiev Production Association imeni Artem and the Sovkhoz imeni 60th Anniversary of the USSR of Bryansk Oblast unquestionably will facilitate further progress in this matter.

The work of DOSAAF training organizations has improved in recent years and there has been an increase in practical schooling and the ideological, psychological and physical conditioning of draftees. DOSAAF training organizations of Armenia, Georgia, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Latvia and Lithuania as well as of the Tatar ASSR and Bryansk, Kuybyshev and Omsk oblasts strive for stably high results in preparing specialists for the Army and Navy. We have good reason to name the Bryansk and Voronezh nautical schools, the Brest Joint Technical School, the Lutsk Motor Vehicle School and a number of other training organizations which prepare excellent cadres of specialists for the Armed Forces as among the leaders.

We are pleased by the good comments which come from military units and ships about DOSAAF students. Defense Society students worthily perform their international duty while serving as part of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Many of those who at one time worked in various Defense Society organizations have been recognized with high state awards and officers V. Shcherbakov, Yu. Kuznetsov, N. Akramov, R. Aushev and others have received the title Hero of the Soviet Union.

But in discussing preparation of young people for military service we also cannot be silent about the fact that young people insufficiently prepared for the hardships of military labor unfortunately also come into the Army and Navy.

The reasons for these deficiencies are largely rooted in the poor exactingness, oversimplification and indulgences in training cadets in DOSAAF training organizations, and in deviations from existing norms when evaluating their knowledge.

In light of the "Basic Directions for Reform of the School of General Education and Vocational School," our society is faced with the task of increasing the activeness of primary organizations in schools, PTU's [vocational-technical schools] and tekhnikums. We must assist in every way to improve military-patriotic indoctrination and initial military training of the student youth.

Motor vehicle and motorcycle contests, aviation, water and radio sport, and various kinds of model building are gaining more and more popularity in our country. Today tens of thousands of Soviet boys and girls spend their leisure time in these sports. We recently learned about one other victory of DOSAAF athletes. Fourteen parachutists who left the aircraft at a height of 800 m successfully landed on ice at the planned point set up by the North Pole-27 drift station. This was the first group jump in the history of development of the Arctic.

The 8th USSR Summer Games of Nations held last year indicates the growing popularity of technical and applied military sports. During contests in 27 sports unfolded in the DOSAAF system many participants of the Games became category holders, some 3,000 persons fulfilled the norm of master of sport, and 190 fulfilled the norm for international master of sport. There were 412 all-union records bettered during the Games and 309 of them exceed world records.

A great role is played by technical and applied military sports in preparing young men for service in the Armed Forces and in developing their high moral-combat qualities, courage, endurance and skill. This is why the country's Defense Society is taking every step to see that as many young people as possible, including boys of predraft age, are given access to technical and applied military sports activities.

For example, the primary organization of the Kuybyshev Metallurgical Plant imeni V. I. Lenin, headed by A. Ovchinnikov, works daily to develop technical and applied military sports. The mass nature has grown considerably here in recent years. The STK [technical sports club] of metallurgists now brings together more than 270 athletes who constantly work out in sections in ten sports. Last year there were 120 competitions here in which more than 8,000 persons took part, and we have many such foremost collectives in our country.

But there are unfortunately others as well. Some DOSAAF committees and heads of sports organizations and federations place goals, points and seconds in the foreground, as the saying goes, and don't show proper concern for a growth in the ranks of athletes, especially from among young people of predraft and draft age. Sports facilities are used irrationally at times and excellent gymnasiums and stadiums stand empty in places. For example, the fact that there are only several competitions a year at the excellent DOSAAF firing range in Minsk while no competitions at all are held on the motor tracks of Omsk, Kiev, Tbilisi and Voznesensk is puzzling. The excellent Chayka athletic complex in Kiev is being poorly used.

In our view, a form of improving athletic proficiency such as holding games for draftees in technical and applied military sports merits greater attention. During such contests the lads not only improve athletic indicators, but also develop a will to win, a feeling of comradeship and collectivism, and a feeling of responsibility for their own collective. Such qualities come in very handy for them later in the Army or Navy.

DOSAAB workers and activists realize well that we still have many reserves and unused capabilities. The Defense Society is faced with major tasks and much work lies ahead. DOSAAF organizations are not resting on their laurels but are stepping up their activity.

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CSO: 1801/412

DOSA AF

LT GEN ARAPOV PRAISES TROOPS OF CENTRAL ASIAN MILITARY DISTRICT

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 14, Jul 84 (signed to press 29 Jun 84)
pp 3-4

[Article by Lt Gen V. F. Arapov, member of military council, chief of political directorate of Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "We Serve in the Red Banner Central Asian"]

[Text] The sons of all Soviet republics, representatives of more than 70 nations and nationalities of our country--soldiers of the Red Banner Central Asian Military District, the youngest in the Soviet Armed Forces, which will be 15 years old in August of this year--perform their difficult service in an enormous territory stretching from the shores of the Caspian to the gray peaks of the Altay, from the mountain ridges of the Pamir to the steppe of North Kazakhstan.

Personnel of the district's units are performing their assigned missions in an exemplary fashion. Central Asian military personnel are worthy successors and continuers of grand traditions of the Red Army's first units and of the exploits of legendary fighting men and commanders who established and defended Soviet power along with the workers--Kazakhs, Kirghiz and Tajiks.

The district's history is connected inseparably with the names of our country's prominent political and military leaders. It was here in Central Asia and Kazakhstan during the Civil War that the military leadership talent of M. V. Frunze, V. I. Chapayev, I. S. Kutyakov, A. T. Dzhangil'din and M. Masancha was displayed in all its greatness. V. V. Kuybyshev performed important assignments of V. I. Lenin and the government of the young Soviet Republic here. D. P. Salikov, A. A. Shavrov, D. A. Furmanov and others were in the revvoyaen-sovety [revolutionary military councils] of fronts and armies. The legendary Army commander S. M. Budennyi routed the Basmachi here. (For information I can say that our Central Asian Military District initially was set up by USSR RVS [Revolutionary Military Council] Order of 4 June 1926 and performed its duty with honor until 9 July 1945. The SAVO [Central Asian Military District] was reactivated in 1969.)

The Civil War had ended, but even in days of peaceful combat training district personnel wrote many vivid pages in the annals of glorious initiatives and

achievements in military service. The world's first airborne landing was made here with the landing of an aircraft in the center of the Kara Kum Desert. District artillery subunits were invariable participants of all-Army competitions, demonstrating a high degree of training there, and in 1940 Lt Abduvaliyev's battery took a prizewinning place in the competition.

While engaged in combat training, district troops repeatedly gave the population selfless assistance in accomplishing national economic tasks. In the late 1920's, for example, Central Asian military personnel built the Dushanbe-Kulyab road high in the mountains under the bullets of Basmatch bands. The road was of great importance for further strengthening of Soviet power in Tajikistan's mountainous regions.

In the time of stern ordeals of the Great Patriotic War here on the ancient soil of Central Asia began the heroic path of many of the Soviet Armed Forces' units large and small which covered their colors with unfading glory. Among them was the Order of Lenin, Red Banner, Order of Suvorov Rezhitsa Guards Motorized Rifle Division imeni HSU Maj Gen I. V. Panfilov, which did not let the enemy pass to our Motherland's capital in 1941 on one of the fascists' main axes of attack--Volokolamsk. The entire world knows about the exploit of the 28 Panfilov heroes who on 16 November 1941 blocked the path of 50 fascist tanks and infantry. It was then, on one of the most difficult days of the capital's defense, that Politruk V. G. Klochkov uttered the words which became legendary:

"Russia is great, but there is nowhere to retreat: Moscow is to the rear!"

Almost all of the 28 Panfilov heroes died but the enemy didn't pass through their position. Yesterday's farmers and builders, teachers and hunters--people of peaceful trades--demonstrated a model of courage, staunchness and heroism in fighting for the beloved Motherland's independence.

Natives of those places where Central Asian military personnel now serve were participants of all the most important battles of the Great Patriotic War. More than 800 frontlinesmen of this land who were the bravest were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union and more than 100 became full wearers of the Order of Glory. The honor of taking the Reichstag was given to personnel of the 150th Rifle Division, established on the basis of the 151st Separate Rifle Brigade, which was activated in Kazakhstan. The name of Kazakhstan tankman I. Ladushkin is borne by a city near the western borders of the Soviet land. Central Asian soldier I. Shklovskiy, a former tank driver-mechanic who was first to burst into the capital of Czechoslovakia, is an honorary citizen of Prague.

The bravest sons of the homeland have been registered forever on the rolls of many of the district's subunits. Among them is Twice-Honored HSU Capt Aleksandr Terent'yevich Karpov.

A fighter pilot and a squadron commander, he displayed exceptional courage in the war years and often entered a fight against superior enemy forces and came out the winner. The brave Soviet eagle flew more than 500 combat sorties and

conducted some 100 aerial fights in which he shot down 28 enemy aircraft personally and another eight as part of a group. Capt Karpov died heroically in performing a combat mission but his name and his exploits will remain forever in formation.

Soldiers of the 1980's are honorably performing their constitutional duty and learning to master formidable equipment and weapons expertly and conduct modern combat competently while worthily continuing the glorious military deeds of countrymen. They perform their duty under stern conditions. Even the climate here places higher demands on people, but Central Asian soldiers, utterly dedicated to their Motherland, the Communist Party and the Soviet government, staunchly endure the difficulties. Their combat training takes place at the foot of snow-covered mountain peaks, in the shifting sands and on the expanses of the steppe. Here they learn military affairs as the great Lenin bequeathed--in a genuine manner.

The personnel of district units and subunits are successfully accomplishing their primary task of being in constant combat readiness for a crushing rebuff to any aggressor. This is evidenced by achievements in military affairs and in a further strengthening of military discipline and regulation order. Some district units were awarded the USSR Minister of Defense Pennant for Courage and Military Valor. The Central Asian Military District was awarded the Order of Red Banner in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War for a great contribution toward strengthening national defenses and for successes in combat and political training. The personnel are proving that there is place for an exploit even in peaceful days. Vivid confirmation of this are the grand deeds by Heroes of the Soviet Union officers V. Kot and V. Shcherbakov, who are products of our district. Many of our soldiers have been decorated with orders and medals for conscientious service, exemplary mastery of equipment and weapons, and excellent performance of various command assignments.

Company commander Capt A. Mamyrkulov was awarded the Order of Red Star. His experience in organizing indoctrinational work with subordinates was generalized and disseminated in all district subunits. The tank soldiers commanded by Sr Lt A. Yevdokimov demonstrated excellent results in fire against targets in a recent exercise and honorably passed the range test. Yevdokimov himself has excellent mastery of all kinds of authorized weapons and skillfully arranges subordinates' combat training.

Abundant experience of work to strengthen military discipline has built up in Capt S. Skachkov's battery, and it was studied and disseminated in all subunits.

Many patriotic initiatives originated among district troops. Among them is the initiative by personnel of the motorized rifle company where HSU Politruk V. Klochkov is forever on the rolls. "We will continue and multiply our fathers' traditions!"--this initiative, which originated in 1971, was supported by all USSR Armed Forces personnel. Maintaining allegiance to their initiative, Klochkov's men have been the leaders in competition among subunits of the Panfilov Division for many years in a row now and they worthily augment the

military glory of frontline countrymen. Central Asian military personnel are also true to the tradition of helping the local populace at a difficult minute. That was the case in 1973 when Alma-Ata was threatened by a mudflow of enormous destructive force. Personnel selflessly fought fire in the forests of East Kazakhstan in one of the drought years and took an active part in mopping up the aftermath of an earthquake in Kirghizia and Tajikistan. Local soviet and party entities turned specifically to the soldiers when it became necessary to save flocks of sheep cut off from wintering areas by unprecedented snowstorms.

Central Asian military personnel perform much work during the harvest on the Kazakhstan virgin lands. In three years of the 11th Five-Year Plan the district's military drivers have transported millions of tons of grain.

The personnel are faced with difficult missions of further strengthening combat readiness and vigilance in the 1984 training year. In performing them, district troops are intensively mastering military science and learning to defeat the enemy not by numbers, but by ability. The party and Komsomol members are in the lead, inspiring their comrades in arms to glorious deeds. Among them is Capt A. Mamurkulov, wearer of the Order of Red Star and commander of a foremost company in the Order of Kutuzov Vyborg Motorized Rifle Regiment, initiator of socialist competition in the district; missileman Capt O. Simonenko; pilot Capt V. Petrov; surface-to-air missileman Lt Col Yu. Birzhivikov, and many others. People strive to equal them and take the example from them. Among the leaders of socialist competition under the motto "Be on guard, in constant readiness to defend socialism's achievements!" are warrant officers V. Mitrofanov and A. Khmel'nitskiy, sergeants A. Musayev and A. Gupalov, privates S. Astashevich and A. Gorokhov, and others. They have excellent mastery of equipment and weapons. Such soldiers are the pride and glory of our Army collective.

Comrade K. U. Chernenko said in a speech at the February 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenum: "And let no one be left with the slightest doubt: we will continue to be concerned with strengthening our country's defenses and seeing that we have sufficient means to cool the hot heads of militant adventurers."

The Central Asian military personnel are responding to the party's trust and to its concern for strengthening the Armed Forces with even greater intensity in combat training, with a further strengthening of discipline and efficiency, and with an increase in combat readiness of the units and subunits. District personnel are worthily accomplishing the missions assigned them to defend the Motherland's southern borders.

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DOSAAF

REGIONAL, METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF DOSAAF DISCUSSED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
pp 2-3

[Article by Lt Gen V. Mosyaykin, deputy chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee: "Go Farther, Achieve More"]

[Text] For the CPSU there is nothing higher or more precious than serving the working people or concern for increasing their well-being. Over its entire history the party has firmly followed the chosen path, the path of communist creation and peace. New vivid proof of this was the extraordinary February and April (1984) Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the recently convened session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The documents adopted at them expressed the essence of the socioeconomic and foreign policy of the Soviet state at the present stage and they profoundly and principledly examined the most important questions for the nation, they closely analyzed the successes and shortcomings and outlined specific ways for achieving the set goals.

In steadily and constantly carrying out Lenin's creative peace-loving policy, the CPSU and the Soviet government have been forced to reinforce it with a constant concern for maintaining the nation's defense might on the proper level, improving the USSR Armed Forces and increasing their combat readiness. This concern has assumed particular importance at present, when as a result of the adventuristic actions of the U.S. administration and its allies, the international situation in the world has become sharply exacerbated.

"We do not need military superiority," stated the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, in his speech at the extraordinary plenum, "we do not intend to impose our will on others but we will not allow the achieved military equilibrium to be upset." Considering the growing aggressiveness of the imperialist circles, the CPSU has drawn the attention of the party and soviet bodies and the public organizations to the need of increasing the class vigilance of the Soviet people and to further improving ideological work in the masses and the indoctrination of the workers in a spirit of constant readiness to defend their motherland. The USSR DOSAAF, in bringing together in its ranks over 100 million workers, kolkhoz members, white collar personnel and students, has an important role to play in carrying out these tasks.

The Greetings of the CPSU Central Committee to the Ninth All-Union DOSAAF Conference noted that the party highly regards the contribution of DOSAAF to carrying out Lenin's ideas on involving the broad masses in strengthening national defense capability and is firmly confident that in the future DOSAAF will provide active aid in training workers to defend the socialist fatherland.

In responding in kind to the high praise of their activities and in being guided by the decisions of the November (1982), the June and December (1983) and the extraordinary February and April (1984) Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, the DOSAAF committees, primary, training and sports organizations have constantly increased the level of the military-patriotic indoctrination of the DOSAAF members, they have improved the propaganda of military and military-technical knowledge among the population and bettered the quality of training for specialists of the Armed Forces and the personnel of the mass technical professions for the national economy. Positive shifts have been observed in the development of the technical and paramilitary types of sports. The military-patriotic and mass defense measures carried out on the spot are becoming more effective and are being more closely linked to the life and tasks of DOSAAF and to the actual preparation of the preinduction and induction youth for military service.

Having successfully completed the previous year, the DOSAAF organizations of Belorussia and Latvia, Moscow, Amur, Bryansk, Kuybyshev and Omsk Oblasts are steadily picking up the pace of their shock work. A new step ahead was the successes achieved by the defense organizations of Krasnoyarsk Kray, Voronezh, Irkutsk and other oblasts. Due to their clear organizational work and the ability to spot and draw upon unused reserves, these collectives have risen in the socialist competition to qualitatively new levels and have achieved merited success. In paying proper due to the diversity of the creative search and to the initiative of the pacesetters, we would like to point to a general quality which is characteristic of all of them, mainly the ability to organize mass defense work directly at the place of employment, study and residence of the people, to involve broad strata of the community in this work and see to it that each member of the collective is profoundly aware of his patriotic duty.

"To be a patriot today," commented Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the June (1983) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "means to constantly strengthen the economic and defense potential of our motherland, to increase its readiness to defend peace against any encroachments of the imperialist aggressor and to show a conscientious attitude toward military obligations." This definition in essence contains the contents of all the diverse activities of DOSAAF. The center of these activities undoubtedly should be in the primary DOSAAF organization which directly involves the broad masses of workers and the student youth in the orbit of its work.

At the Third Plenum of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee held in March of the current year, in discussing the results of the February (1984) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the tasks of the DOSAAF organizations stemming from the speech of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, at it, it was pointed out that in recent years a good deal has been done to increase the role and activeness of the primary DOSAAF organizations. Many of them have enriched their experience in skillfully combining

military-patriotic indoctrination of the youth with practical instruction of the youth in the basics of military affairs. However, if we assess the mass defense work carried out on the spot from the standpoint of today's high demands, then we cannot help but admit that up to now only the first steps have been taken in carrying out the main specific tenet of the party, that is, to bring the content and forms of indoctrinational work into accord with the increased spiritual needs of the Soviet people.

As yet proper concern is not shown everywhere for seeking out new effective forms and methods of military-patriotic indoctrination, for improving lecture propaganda or for recruiting and training propaganda personnel. Often the military-patriotic measures are conducted without covering the broad masses of the population, particularly in rural localities. It is all the more essential to improve this work now, when work has begun in the DOSAAF organizations to explain the instructions of the extraordinary February and April (1984) Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the materials of the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet and when our nation is moving toward the significant event of the 40th anniversary of the great victory over Nazi Germany.

The cited shortcomings are inherent, in particular, to the DOSAAF committees of Tajikistan and Estonia, the Kalmyk ASSR and Murmansk and Chita Oblasts. One of the basic reasons for this is the underestimating of the role of the social aktiv, the sound and sole basis on which all activities of the USSR DOSAAF rest.

We would particularly like to point to the inestimable aid provided in indoctrinational and training work with the youth by the participants of the Great Patriotic War, the veterans of the Armed Forces and labor and by the reserve officers. These people are the living embodiment of the linkage of the times and generations and the bearers of the spiritual wealth of society. From them the youth gain strength and wisdom, wholehearted dedication to the motherland, as well as experience in life and the military. The field of their activities is not only memoirs, lectures and meetings. The present life of the veterans is also marked by energy and true ardor and remains a model for imitation.

With regret it must be admitted that not all the DOSAAF organizations make full use of the very rich experience and knowledge of the veterans or skillfully channel their energy into indoctrinating and preparing the younger generation for military service. Not everywhere have they gotten rid of formalism and indifference to work with the youth. We can rightly expect greater activity and professionalism from the DOSAAF committees in organizing the work of the volunteer sections, the permanent commissions, the procedural councils and lecture groups where hundreds of thousands of veterans are at work, as remarkable volunteer activists.

As a result of the measures taken in recent years, there has been an improvement in the organizational, procedural and political-indoctrinational work in the DOSAAF training organizations. Their training facilities have been strengthened while the equipment and facilities have been significantly modernized. The skill of the pedagogical personnel has been increased. The practical skills as well as the ideological, psychological and physical conditioning of the inductees have risen. Ever-better prepared recruits are taking their places under the colors of the troop units and ships.

High and stable results in training specialists for the Armed Forces have been achieved by the DOSAAF training organizations of Armenia and Georgia, the Ukraine and Belorussia, Latvia and Lithuania, the Tatar ASSR as well as Bryansk, Kuybyshev and Omsk Oblasts. However, the successes achieved in this area should not cause in us a feeling of compacency or cover over the still existing shortcomings. It would be possible to name many training organizations where a significant portion of the students in inspections did not show complete knowledge and firm skills. This applies chiefly to the DOSAAF schools and clubs of Tajikistan, the Karelian ASSR, Kamchatka, Orenburg and Tomsk Oblasts. There are various reasons for the poor training of the students, but as a whole they come down to the low level of leadership over the training organizations, insufficient exactingness, oversimplification and weaknesses in the training of the inductees and to the failure to observe the current standards in assessing their knowledge.

Obviously, certain leaders of the republic, kray and oblast DOSAAF committees, the principals of schools and heads of clubs have not shown enough principleness and exactingness while liberalism and unjustified concessions, as is known, never have helped to improve work. The party's line of increasing organization, strengthening order and discipline and the unconditional fulfillment of the plan quotas obliges us to show more concern so that control and the check on execution both in terms of their content and their form meet the demands of the time so that everywhere there is a state of intolerance for any manifestations of irresponsibility and laxness and for violations of planning and executive discipline. Here in the forefront is the personal responsibility of the personnel, party principledness, self-criticism, professionalism and the ability to mobilize the collective to carry out the set tasks.

With each passing year in DOSAAF there are more and more primary training organizations for whom a high level of indoctrinational, training and sports work is a daily standard. We rightly pay proper due to the achievements of many schools and STK [sports-technical club] of Uzbekistan, Krasnodar Kray, Astrakhan, Saratov and Sakhalin Oblasts in training specialists for the national economy. Here great experience has been gained in sound long-range planning for the training of technical personnel considering the actual demand for them. Measures are being taken to bring the training of equipment operators directly closer to agriculture. Training procedures are being improved.

The work of increasing the activity of the rural DOSAAF primary organizations has been well organized in the Ukraine. Interesting forms for familiarizing the youth with technical and paramilitary types of sports are being introduced in Latvia and Lithuania. The network of juvenile sports-technical clubs is being successfully expanded in Minsk, Penza and other cities. Defense-sports work is being successfully combined with military-patriotic indoctrination in the DOSAAF organizations of Moscow and Voroshilovgrad Oblasts. There are more and more competitions being held for prizes of war heroes and famous fellow countrymen.

All these creative findings and achievements, certainly, are pleasant in and of themselves. But still the experience of pacesetters is particularly valuable when it serves as a guideline for others and when it is adopted and utilized by scores and hundreds of collectives. The mass information media and the periodic

press of DOSAAF also play an important role in the disseminating and propagandizing of advanced experience. We have turned out a number of useful films and documentaries, books and pamphlets and have published many special-problem, analytical, propaganda and procedural articles, as well as letters from the spot giving positive experience on various aspects of mass defense work. But is this becoming universally available everywhere, is it being studied, analyzed and introduced into experience? Unfortunately, no.

For example, in Kaliningrad Oblast, there is one copy of the newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT for an average of every six-seven primary DOSAAF organizations while in Guryevskiy, Gvardeyskiy, Zelenogradskiy and Ozerskiy Rayons of the same oblast there is only one copy of the newspaper for every ten primary organizations. The situation is no better for subscriptions to magazines.

Need it be said that many DOSAAF activists, leaders of the primary organizations and at times staff workers of the raykoms here invent long-known forms and methods of work, they do not have a clear knowledge of their duties and tasks in conducting even such widespread measures as the all-Union hike of Komsomol members and youth to the sites of the revolutionary, military and labor glory of the CPSU and the Soviet people, the paramilitary Zarnitsa [Summer Lightning] and Orlenok [Eaglet] Games, the mass defense work months and the weeks of revolutionary and military glory and the Memory Watch. They do not have an elementary notion of the other technical and paramilitary types of sports. And as a result the impotence and passivity in the activities of the defense organizations and the desire to replace a vital matter with paperwork and the drawing up of "well-received" reports.

The leaders of the lagging organizations often endeavor to explain shortcomings in the work by some objective factors. However, and precisely this is how the party raises the question, at present we need not explanations but a real improvement in the state of affairs. Here the key to success is greater responsibility by the personnel and great demands on them. From them we must achieve a flawless execution of their duties, clarity and initiative and the unconditional fulfillment of the set tasks. Experience shows that success in mass defense work, incidentally as in any other question, to a decisive degree depends upon the ability to mobilize people, to set a precise and clear goal for them and create conditions for achieving this, upon initiative and upon the development level of the socialist competition.

The Decree of the CPSU Central Committee of 26 September 1983 "On Improving the Organization and the Practice of Summing Up the Socialist Competition and Commending of Its Winners" provided a new impetus of creative energy for the staff workers and activists in DOSAAF. This increased the role of the competition in DOSAAF and oriented it to achieve high end results and increase the effectiveness of mass defense work.

Nevertheless, proper attention is not given everywhere to the questions of developing the socialist competition in the DOSAAF organizations. Thus, the Murmansk DOSAAF Obkom approved the conditions for the competition in the organizations under it for the current 5 years only in...1983. We might ask how did these organizations compete in the 2 previous years? At times instances are encountered where the committees, instead of serious organizational work to

rectify the situation in the lagging collectives, give them clearly understated plan quotas. As a result, the appearance of fulfilling the assumed obligations is created. And such deception is presented as proof of the successful development of the initiative to work without laggards!

We feel that there is no need to assess such practices. They show the need for the more careful selection of personnel according to professional and political qualities and greater demands on them for the assigned job.

As is known, at the start of this year, the Bureau of the Presidium of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee supported the appeal of the DOSAAF primary organizations at the Kiev Production Association imeni Artem and the Sovkhoz imeni 60-letiya SSR in Bryansk Oblast. These had assumed additional increased socialist obligations for 1984 and urged all the defense collectives in the nation to widely develop a socialist competition under the motto "To Make a Worthy Contribution to Strengthening the Defense Might of the Motherland." Many DOSAAF organizations have responded to this appeal. It is essential that it reaches each collective and each member of DOSAAF.

The year 1984 should become an important stage in increasing the effectiveness of mass defense work. To reinforce and develop the achieved successes, to go farther and attain more--this is the task now for each Soviet patriot. Now it is very important, as the party has urged us, to keep the set pace and the overall impetus to actually carry out the tasks, to further develop the positive trends in work and give them a permanent nature.

Just one year separates us from the significant date of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people over Nazi Germany. The USSR DOSAAF Central Committee has decided to declare an all-Union review of the DOSAAF rayon and city organizations devoted to the glorious jubilee. The aim of the competition is to increase the organization and clarity in the work of the committees and establish in them a microclimate which would help to further raise the level of mass defense work. It is the duty of the staff workers and DOSAAF activists to set the tone, to win over the masses by the personal example of a conscientious attitude toward work and invest a maximum of energy and capacity to successfully carrying out the important and responsible tasks set by the party for DOSAAF.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

MILITARY INSTRUCTORS TEACH GEORGIANS, ARMENIANS RUSSIAN

Russian in Armenian School

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
p 41

[Article by M. Gorshkov, educator for basic military training at the Armenian Republic Institute for the Advanced Training of Teachers: "Without Fail in Russian"]

[Text] The military instructor at the Secondary School No 9 imeni Geroy Sovetskogo Soyuza U. Avetisyan (Kafan), P. Pogosyan, in many years of pedagogical work has achieved great successes. Many of his students have become officers in the Soviet Armed Forces, some are still studying in the military schools and virtually all the young graduates have become outstanding soldiers.

The military instructor pays special attention to how his students master Russian. At the very first, announced exercise in the 9th grade he explains to the children that Russian is the language of international intercourse and the language of our Armed Forces. He recalls the words of M. I. Kalinin that Russian is indispensable in the army. The military regulations and combat orders are written in it and commands are also given in it.

The military instructor also uses the form-up before the start of the lessons. In turn, each student reports to him on the readiness of the platoon for the exercise. In receiving the report, P. Pogosyan listens carefully to the pupil. If he makes a mistake, he does not interrupt but after the end of the report tactfully makes the correction and asks the student to repeat everything again.

Frequently, the military instructor writes on the classroom blackboard new, hard-to-remember and hard-to-pronounce terms (particularly for Civil Defense), the endings of certain words and proposes that they be entered without fail in the vocabularies which each student keeps in order to repeat them at home. In preparing for the lessons, P. Pogosyan himself carefully selects these words and expressions, he writes them down in an outline plan and often practices their correct pronunciation. If during the explanation he proposes that the students write something in their notebooks, without fail he goes along the rows of seats and sees how his students handle this. He helps those who have made mistakes correct them.

In the lessons the military instructor endeavors to create an atmosphere of a comradely, unforced conversation during which, with his permission, the students can ask the answerer questions on the discussed material. Such "shifting of fire" gives the seniors the opportunity to answer the posed question freely, without fearing probable verbal errors, to check themselves in the ability to correctly state their ideas in Russian. P. Pogosyan also uses another procedure: he calls on a student and asks him to read the text from a textbook or the script for a film strip. Initially the children were unable to pronounce the words loudly and clearly. But time passed and they all were able to eliminate this shortcoming without exception. It also must be pointed out that in meeting students in school and on the street, the military instructor converses with them only in Russian.

Close professional contacts have been established by the military instructor with the Russian teachers. They help P. Pogosyan on questions of the methods of teaching it in a national school, the grammar, orthography and phonetics. Every semester once or twice one of the Russian teachers is invited by the military instructor to lessons in basic military training. These visits are always beneficial.

The painstaking work of the military instructor at the school has left its mark. As a recognition or assessment of this, one might cite the words from the letter of Samvel Arutyunyan, an officer candidate at the Tbilisi Higher Artillery Command School imeni 26 Bakinskikh Komissarov: "...Many thanks to you, comrade military instructor, for having taught me not only military affairs but also Russian. Had it not been for you I would not have been able to become an officer candidate in the military school...."

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Georgian School Teaches Russian

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
p 41

[Article A. Gvnetadze, military instructor at secondary school No 2 in the village of Tsitelikhevi in Georgia: "Soldiers Write the School"]

[Text] Not so long ago the graduates of the Tsitelikhevi Secondary School No 2 had a poor knowledge of Russian as there was no one to teach this subject. Of course, things were difficult for the fellows in the army. Now we have working a young instructor L. Tabriadze. In addition to basic Russian lessons she gives additional exercises designed basically for draftees.

Military-patriotic work also helps the children better learn Russian. For example, for several years now they have been corresponding with the students of the Lukov Secondary School in Volyn Oblast. They send each other souvenirs made by their own hands which reflect national customs and in their letters tell about their deeds and plans. All of this started with the fact that the trackers from our school learned about S. Grdzeldze from our village who died in the Ukraine and was buried in a fraternal grave close to the Lukov school.

Contact with the sponsors from military units also plays an important role in the study of Russian. Familiarization with the life of the servicemen clearly and persuasively shows the future soldiers that without a good knowledge of Russian they can expect a good deal of difficulty in the forthcoming service in the Armed Services.

Recently the successes from the measures conducted in the school have become noticeable. We can judge this from the letters which are sent to us by former graduates who recently donned a uniform.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

MILITARY INSTRUCTOR SEES NO TIME LIMITS TO HIS JOB

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
p 43

[Article by I. Danilov, military instructor from Secondary School No 33 in Tula:
"The Matter Stands to Gain; We Continue a Discussion of Letters on the Workday
of a Military Instructor"]

[Text] The questions raised by my colleagues from Taganrog and Chelyabinsk
(see VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA, No 1, 1984) are not easy to answer. Nevertheless, I
will state my opinion.

Repeatedly I have heard among my colleagues talk about the excessive and seemingly illegal burdening of the military instructors by duties not envisaged by the leading documents and of the "incorrect" allocation of responsibility for various extracurricular measures involving the military-patriotic indoctrination of the students. It seems to me that the military instructors who count the time they spend on the job are profoundly wrong. And the very posing of the question, I feel, is invalid.

The person who has chosen the occupation of a pedagogue should understand the entire measure of personal responsibility to the state for the training and indoctrination of the man of the future, a worthy continuer of the revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the Communist Party, the Soviet people and our glorious Armed Forces and a man of a communist society. If a military instructor has completely understood the importance of his job, the question of the time he spends at work would never occur. Certainly the indoctrination of young people cannot be restricted to any limits. This is a daily, on-going process. It does not know days off, vacations, breaks or rest. In my opinion, any true teacher and military instructor clearly understands this truth.

Naturally, the military instructor is primarily responsible for preparing the youth for army service and for selecting applicants for admission to military schools. This is in no way a simple matter and requires a large expenditure of time and effort, if it is to be done properly.

For example, I begin vocational guidance from the very first lesson in the 9th grade. I take the children to the Tula Higher Artillery Engineer School where they become familiar with the routine, life and training conditions for the future officers, the physical plant and so forth. We also hold meetings with

students and officers who are school graduates. They participate in many school-wide measures, including the Zarnitsa [Summer Lightning] and Orlenok [Eaglet] Military Sports Games, the military sports holidays, contests, evenings and so forth. In order that the measures achieve the desired goal, they must be thoroughly prepared for. Can work hours be counted here? Of course not. It is no accident that in recent years, 81 of our students have chosen an officer's profession and at present five 9th graders and six 10th graders three times a week attend exercises at the "Future Officer Candidate" Club.

To put it briefly, in order to effectively perform one's duties, 7 hours are not enough for me and I must spend much more time.

Now about my workday. It, as a rule, is organized according to a plan which is approved by the principal and includes the preparation and conduct of exercises and lessons with the Young Armyman detachments for the specialties of the Orlenok Game, with the platoon and squad commanders and in the marksmanship circles (the school has two of them). I am personally involved with the Zarnitsa participants in weapons training and civil defense. Two of the best trained 10th graders are assigned to each Zarnitsa detachment. With them I conduct special instructor-procedural exercises, I monitor their work and provide practical aid.

On me rests the duties of organizing drills and meeting the standards of the GTO [Ready for Labor and Defense] Complex (pull-ups, grenade throwing and cross-country running). Without fail I am present at the meetings of the Komsomol Committee and the Pioneer Council. I head the school DOSAAF Committee. I instruct the teachers of the 2d grades and the class leaders of the 5th grades who teach Civil Defense and for the most difficult questions, as a rule, I conduct the lessons myself. Under assignment of the party bureau I work with certain "difficult" students (private talks with them, supervising studies and conduct, visiting parents and so forth).

Practice shows that a lesson in basic military training, no matter how well it is carried out, cannot provide high-quality assimilation of the material by all the senior graders, particularly in terms of practical skills. For this reason, constantly during extracurricular time I conduct elective exercises on the most difficult subjects.

I have also contributed to establishing the Museum of Military Glory and the Lenin Hall. I had to do a great deal myself and with the aid of the pupils in the military lab. During the current academic year with our own forces and in full accord with the recommendations we have created places for the practical study of the duties of a sentry, firing rules, a compound for tactical training and civil defense and an area for drilling exercises. While the children in turn work 2 hours after classes, I, as the instructor, must work 10-12 hours daily, including Sunday. Of course, this has been difficult but everything has been paid back with the joy for the conscientious, zealous labor of the children. In this instance can an adult and all the more a pedagogue or military instructor count the overtime hours?

In our school a definite practice has developed for military-patriotic indoctrination. The entire pedagogical collective, the administration, the party

and trade union organizations, the Komsomol and DOSAAF committees and the Pioneer Council participate in it. We do not have such a phenomenon as the refusal of teachers to carry out certain measures under the pretext that it is supposedly not their job.

In conclusion I would like to say several words about my relations with the teachers and administration since this question was raised in the mentioned article in the journal. The first thing I learned in coming to the school was that I had to become part of the collective and be useful to it. This I achieved by punctiliousness, by discipline and an attentive attitude to everything happening. I constantly discussed my plans and ideas with the principal and his deputies, with the secretary of the party organization and the teachers. I attended lessons where I gained procedural skills in the education and indoctrination of the school children. I established firm contacts with the class leaders, first of all, naturally, with the 9th and 10th graders, and helped them in military-patriotic work, in preparing reviews, contests, exhibits, competitions, meetings and so forth.

The school faculty is a female one. And for this reason virtually everyday a male teacher is asked for help, for instance, in putting up a stand or drawing a poster for an outdoor lesson. If the player, TV, movie projector or slide projector "go on the fritz," if a lock does not open then they return to me. Yes, this also is not part of the duties of a military instructor but I never refuse. As much as I can I always help.

Thus, my normal, comradely relations have been established with the pedagogical collective. I give advice and I go for advice, I help and they help me and as a result everything stands to gain.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

OBSTACLE COURSE DESIGN, USE REVIEWED

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 5, May 84 (signed to press 9 Apr 84)
pp 36, 48-inside back cover

[Unattributed article: "Equipment of a Paramilitary Obstacle Course"]

[Text] Many readers of the magazine who are chairmen of the committees of DOSAAF primary organizations as well as military instructors of schools, PTU [vocational-technical schools] and technical schools have asked the editors to publish plans and the layout for sports equipment for paramilitary obstacle courses which are part of the unified all-Union sports classification. This will provide an opportunity to make sets of such courses on the spot using sponsors or their own forces. This undoubtedly will contribute to the development of the mass feature of one of the most interesting types of paramilitary all-round tournaments and to improve the preinduction training of the youth. We are meeting this request.

It is essential to bear in mind that in addition to the gear and obstacles shown in the plans, the set of a paramilitary obstacle course (for conducting competitions for this type of sports it is desirable to have two or three sets) includes a standard gymnastic "horse," a box "with cartridges" weighing 22.5 kg, an air rifle with a supply of bullets of the DTs of DN type, and 10-12 oval grenades (F-1) weighing 600 gm. The dimensions of the "pit" for the long-jump are marked by a white line 5 cm wide.

The layout for the elements of the paramilitary obstacle course has already been published in our journal (No 4, 1979). Considering the date this was published we will repeat it in one of our near issues.

Elements of the Obstacles (see the diagrams)

1. A single beam is made from 48-mm pipe on detachable supports. In the guiderods of the supports, one drills openings 100 mm apart for pins to adjust the height of the beam from 80 to 120 cm.
2. A portable fence 1.8-2.0 m high. Height is adjusted by adding 50-mm boards which are inserted in the sockets of the support and fastened by bolts up the entire height of the fence. The fastening bolts are countersunk.

3. A teeter-totter suspended on a moving hinge to a metal support.
4. Crawl openings, like the single beam, is adjustable in height from 30 to 50 cm from the ground. The width of the opening is 40 cm and the height is 50 cm. The supports are detachable.
5. Opening for grenade throwing with dimensions of 100 x 100 cm. Height from the ground is 1 m.
6. A circle for throwing grenades with a diameter of 2 m and lies flat on the ground.
7. A crossing bar with an adjustable height from 80 to 120 cm. The approach (inclined) wooden beam is fastened to the horizontal beam of the bar by hinges from 5-cm sheet steel.
8. A triple beam is made from common, removable supports like the single beam. The first and third beams are 60 cm high and the second is 90 cm. Distance between the beams is 1.5 m.
9. Target set-up for firing an air rifle. Firing distance is 10 m. The targets are falling. The diameter of the black circle is 40 mm. The target after being hit is raised with a lever.

Procedure for Carrying Out the Exercise

The start is from a standing position. The athlete covers the distance between the obstacles running.

Having run 30 m after the start, the participants (just men and male youth) leap over the gymnastic "horse" after which they continue running along the route (the equipment for each lane is painted its own color) for another 20 m.

The jump across the single beam is performed from a run. Men and male youth must clear it. Women can cross the beam by resting on it. Then they run along the route another 30 m.

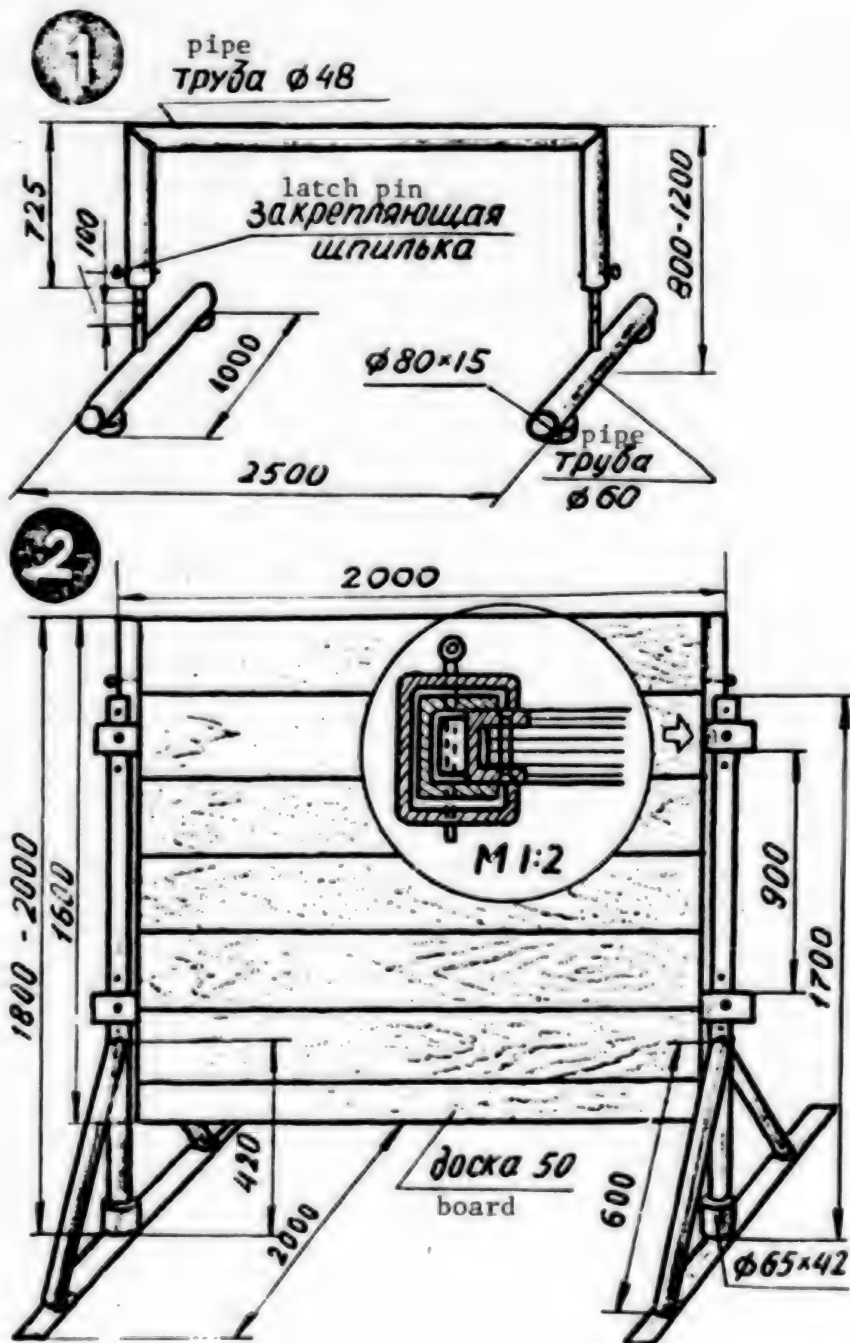
Only men and young men cross the fence on the run, after this they continue running 30 m along the route.

In crossing the teeter-totter, the athletes must mount it at a distance of not more than 0.5 m from the end and jump forward onto the ground after which he continues running 20 m along the course.

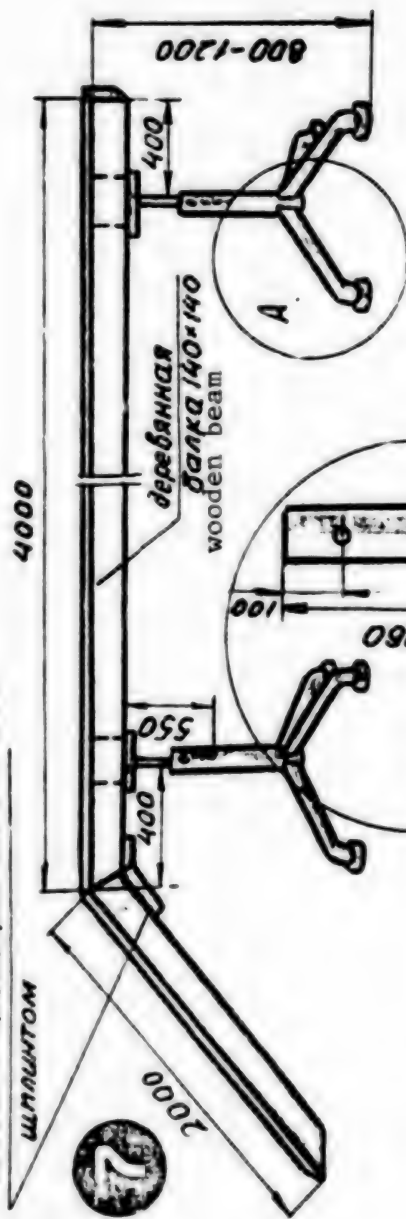
Having crossed through the opening 50 x 40 cm in size, the athlete continues running 20 m along the course.

The triple beam is crossed running by jumping over the first (60 cm), crawling under the second (90 cm) and jumping over the third (60 cm). After this they continue 20 m along the course.

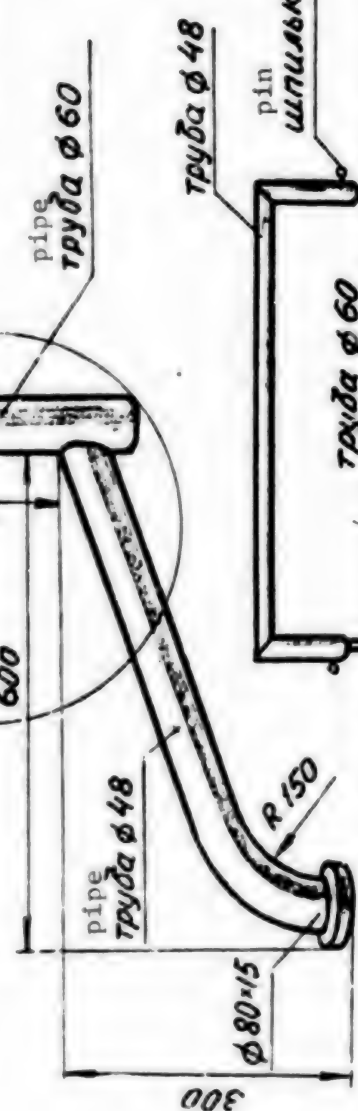
EQUIPMENT OF PARAMILITARY OBSTACLE COURSE



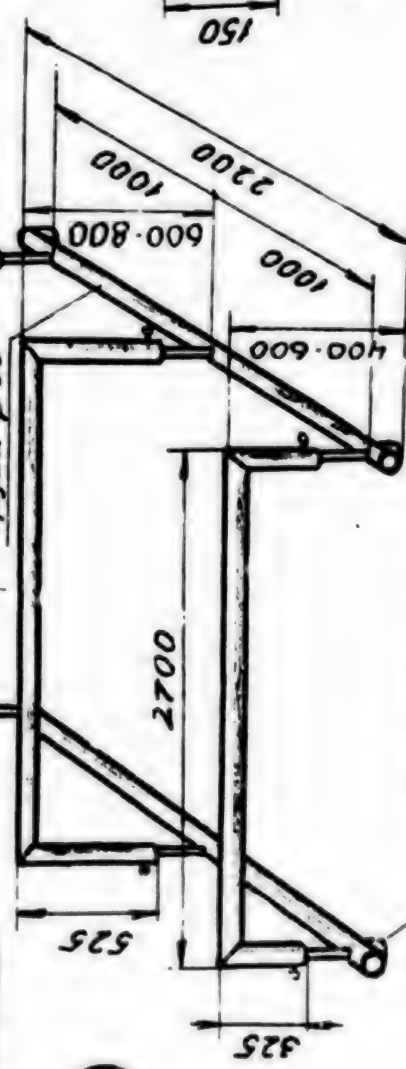
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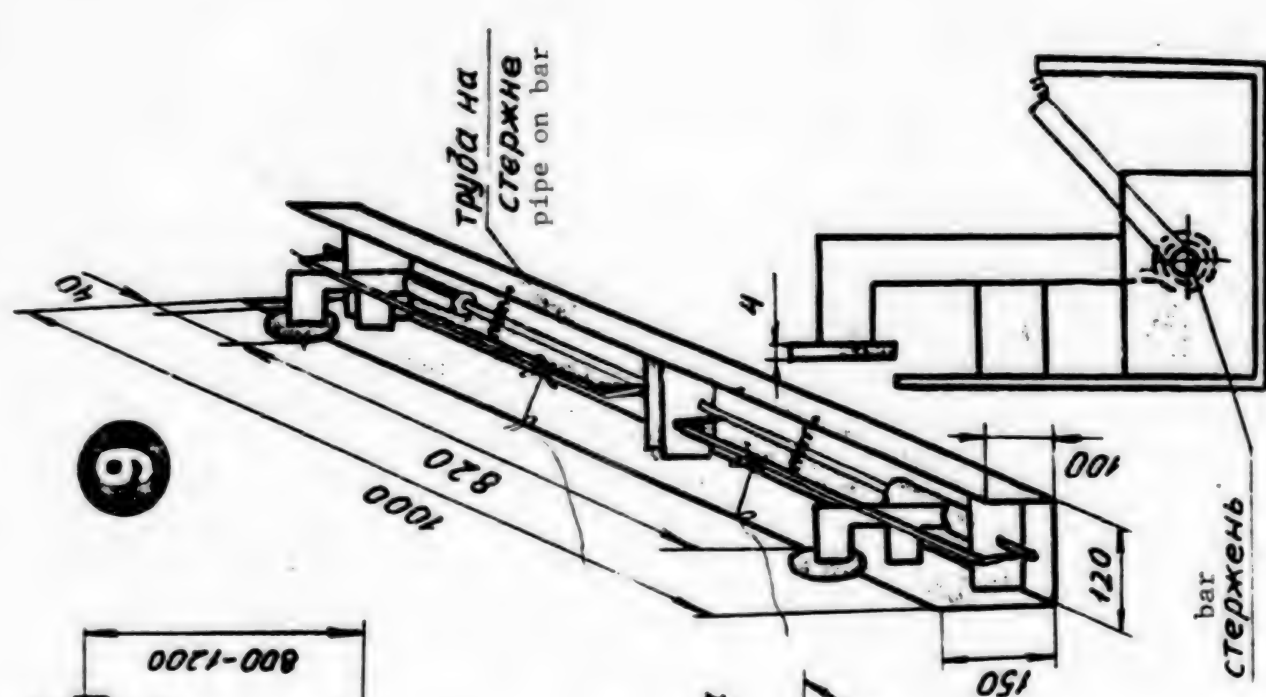
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base support
блок основания опоры
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They crawl under mesh of smooth wire or string stretched at a height of 50 cm above the ground and 20 m long, only for males, after which they continue running 20 m to the firing line.

At the firing line the participant loads the weapon and fires the air rifle from a range of 10 m at a falling target; the position--standing an arm's distance apart. Three rounds are given to hit the target. In the event of three misses, the athlete is obliged to run a penalty circle of 20 m and then continue running 30 m along the route to the next obstacle.

The throwing of the F-1 grenade at the target at a distance of 20 m for men and 15 m for women. The first target is a circle 2 m in diameter lying on the ground. The second is an opening 1 x 1 m at a height of 1 m above the ground. Three grenades are given to hit each target. The participant can make the next throw only after the previous grenade has hit the ground. Only one grenade can be held in the hands of the athlete. The remainder should be a distance of 0.5 m from the throwing line. For the failure to hit each of the targets, the participant is punished with a 20-m penalty circle and after this he continues running along the course for 20 m.

The carrying of a box "with cartridges" weighing 2.5 kg a distance of 20 m is carried out only by the males. Then there is the run along a route of 30 m to a "pit" designated by chalk, planks or strips of white material.

The running jump across the "pit" is 2.5 m for men and 2 m for women. In touching the jump-off line the attempt is considered unsuccessful and the athlete is returned for a repeat of the exercise. After this they continue running 30 m along the route.

Running along the beam. In performing this exercise the athlete must jump off the beam not more than 0.5 m from the end of it, after which he continues running along the route for 20 m to the finish.

N o t e: If the competitions are conducted like a paramilitary relay (a team of three persons), then after jumping off the beam, the first and second participants prepare a stretcher and waiting for the third team member, carry him running to the finish line.

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AFGHANISTAN

TECHNICIAN REPAIRS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER UNDER FIRE

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 4, Apr 84 (signed to press 23 Mar 84) p 12

[Article by ZNAMENOSETS correspondent Engr-Lt Col A. Doronin: "A Choice"]

[Text] Among the Soviet military who distinguished themselves in carrying out their patriotic and international duty in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, at present we are naming Sr WO ["praporshchik"] Vasilii Alekseyevich Voronov who has been awarded the medal "For Combat Services."

The column of vehicles carrying food for the local population was on its way to Kunduz. The several hundred kilometers of torturous road through the mountain passes were coming to an end. Behind the Soviet and Afghan soldiers were dangerous, trap-like gorges and valleys surrounded by rocky mountains from which the rebels unceremoniously made themselves felt. Ahead was the rest awaited by the men and the possibility of relaxing their knotted nerves.

But for Sr WO V. Voronov traveling in the technical support at the very end of the column, it was too early to even dream about rest as any breakdown in the equipment could long upset any plans and there still was the fueling and servicing of the equipment. In the trip pad of the company senior technician over the long route many entries had accumulated showing precisely on what vehicle what had to be inspected and adjusted. In thinking about this, Voronov roted to himself that the rapidly oncoming dusk was not the best time for such work.

All of a sudden machine gun chatter cut through the steady roar of the engines.

The combat vehicles which had accompanied the transport and the freight, having accelerated, continued to move forward. But then, having taken a batch of lead, the truck pulling the field kitchen skidded and stopped.

Voronov realized that its time had come. In a few seconds the armored personnel carrier of the company senior technician, going around several vehicles, reached the site of the accident. But even these instants were enough in order to run through in his mind the possible damages which could cause such "behavior" of the vehicle. And the excited driver had scarcely begun to explain what had happened in his own Pashto dialect heavily peppered with Russian words

when Voronov already knew that the hose of the brake system had been cut, most probably on the right forward wheel. "It was a good thing that it was just that," flashed the thought in Vasiliy's mind, when he, under the cover of the armored personnel carrier, began to inspect the truck. Bullets, sounding like a hammer on an anvil, struck the armor and ricocheted in all directions.

Having quickly completed the inspection, Voronov rushed to the radio. His report was brief. Having heard out the company senior technician, the officer ordered:

"Act at your discretion, but if you cannot repair it in 10 minutes, leave it and catch up with us."

Ten minutes! An unbelievably short time to carry out the task, all the more in such a situation. Having halted the infantry combat vehicle which was following as security, Voronov ordered:

"The crew should take an all-round defense. The gunner should watch the gorge!"

In the mountains dusk is quickly followed by complete darkness. Night, clutching the rocky peaks with its star-studded mantle, had already covered over the men which had fallen into a difficult situation. But now the bandits, without being concerned about camouflage, could take up a convenient position and carry out aimed fire. More than the others, the danger threatened Voronov who was forced at least at times to use a light. And the rebels aimed their weapons at this periodically appearing light.

It was a matter of several minutes to replace the broken hose with a new one. Now the air had to be expelled from the brake fluid and then they could get underway. Upon the command of the senior warrant officer, the driver depressed the brake pedal and Voronov himself operated the wrench.

Finally, crawling out from under the truck, he looked with contentment at his watch. At that very moment a grenade exploded hollowly on the other side of the infantry combat vehicle [BMP]. Something clanked suspiciously nearby.

Vasiliy ran around the combat vehicle. The beam of the flashlight crawled across the side and stopped on a road track which had been twisted by the grenade's explosion. A nervous chill impeded the movements of the senior warrant officer and a flush hit his face as not so long ago he had used the last spare track, replacing it for one that had broken down. Hence, it was impossible to repair the vehicle.

In a few tense seconds, he had to make a difficult choice. Either find some solution for salvaging the combat vehicle or.... Voronov knew well enough what the rebels did with all the BMP which fell into their hands. Of course, they removed the weapons and the radio. But all the rest.... And pity stirred in the man for the equipment which previously had served flawlessly but was suddenly left unprotected. This feeling, once recognized, took over the entire being of Vasiliy. Certainly, there had not been in his life a single day which was not filled with the usual concerns for the equipment.

Even while a small boy in the settlement of Yanovichy near Vitebsk, he dreamed of becoming a driver and showed an unrestrained passion for anything that moved, crawled and turned. At the age of 15 the young man was already working as an implement operator. His job merely involved sitting in front of the plow pulled by the tractor and turning a wheel, forcing the share to the required plowing depth in the ground. But the boy was dreaming about something else: of operating a large dump truck and driving it to distant reaches. And in the brief moments of the tractor operator's rest, when all power over the equipment moved into Vasilii's hands, he checked the fuel level and oiled the bearings and joints. During days especially assigned for repairs, he tried to do as much as the adults. He constantly asked questions, trying to understand an unfathomable relationship between the operating parts and assemblies. He learned particularly from his uncle Yakov who at that time was a tractor operator and from his father, Aleksey Fedorovich, a disabled war veteran who, when his strength permitted, also operated a tractor.

Vasilii, the oldest of six children in the family, clearly was to follow in his father's footsteps. The choice of his vocation was predetermined.

Possibly, Voronov had brought all this experience in life along the long roads to that unknown gorge hidden in the far distant mountains so as precisely then, at that critical moment, to make the most important and only correct decision.

And it was as if someone suddenly shook him.

"Pfc Shaymordanov, come here!"

The figure of the combat vehicle's driver appeared next to him. The instruction session, if it can be so termed, came down to several important words. Then the vehicle turned in place around the fixed, maimed side, sheltering it from fire.

The senior warrant officer and private 1st class, arming themselves with wrenches, quickly removed the broken track. Voronov climbed into the fighting compartment, he disconnected the pneumatic spring from the power lever and jumped back to the ground. The arm on which the road track had previously been fastened now rested powerless on the track and in motion could not be a dangerous brake. With a belt, Vasilii fastened it to the track support so that the arm was held almost in a horizontal position.

"Already!" shouted Voronov unable to contain his tension. And in his mind he encouraged himself: "It is no misfortune that there is one roller less as the vehicle can still go on. And Kunduz is nearby."

"Everyone take your places!" came the long-awaited command loudly.

A minute later, the small column of three vehicles was already carrying the courageous men forward. Their fellow servicemen were awaiting them with impatience and unconcealed concern. The concern for the fate of the comrades left on the road traveled from officer to private and from Russian soldier to Afghan fighter. As if some invisible nerve, in vibrating, had signaled up the column of the danger threatening the men.

A difficult and long road united the travelers, forging from them a collective which lived by the same pace and the same end goal. Here among the men of the international detachment who had assumed responsibility for delivering the food to the distant mountain villages, there was a special concern for human lives. And the life of Sr WO Voronov was also a matter of special concern. However you feel, you still are much more confident knowing that behind you bringing up the rear is a dependable man, a specialist with golden hands whose professional experience and kindness help in handling any unforeseen misfortune.

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